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THE WIGHT FAMILY.

MEMOIR

OF

THOMAS WIGHT,

OF DEDHAM, MASS.,

WITH GENEALOGICAL NOTICES OF HIS DESCENDANTS,

FROM 1637 TO 1840.

BY DANFORTH PHIPPS WIGHT, M. D.

"Wise and good men lay very little stress on any hereditary honours, but those which arise from the piety and usefulness of their ancestors."—ORTON'S LIFE OF DODDRIDGE.

BOSTON:
PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN, 24 CONGRESS STREET.
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INTRODUCTION.

In the following pages I have recorded all that can now be known respecting my ancestors; commencing with Thomas Wight, who emigrated from England and settled in Dedham in 1637, and closing at the death of my mother — a period of two centuries.

I regret that I have not more to communicate. Papers, which related to family affairs and which were existing fifty years since, are now lost. I have gathered up all I could find relating to my progenitors, and have committed it to the press for the gratification of those who may hereafter bear my family name, and, like me, feel a reverence for the memory of ancestral connexions.

Should any member of the family wish to trace back the history of the name of Wight into a period long antecedent to the settlement of this country, and to learn the characters of some of those who have borne it in remote times, he will find much to gratify his curiosity in the sepulchral monuments inscribed with the family name at Carisbrook, at Cowes and at Ryde in the Isle of Wight—the birth-place of Thomas Wight.

The opportunity for collecting materials for genealogical memoirs is daily lessening. Family papers are often little valued by those to whom they are intrusted. But few persons remain, who have brought down to us, by tradition, the opinions and characters of those who were actors upon the stage of life in bygone days; and time is busily at work in erasing the recollection of events from the memory of the living, and names from the monuments, which affection may have erected to prolong their remembrance. At this day, the pursuits of the present and the hopes of

the future make most men indifferent to the past.

The plan adopted in the arrangement of this memoir will be found to be plain and easily understood; so that each person may readily trace his descent back to the common ancestor.

I have received many letters from different branches of the family, in answer to my inquiries; and from these authentic sources am enabled to continue their genealogy to the present time.

My authority for dates and notices respecting individuals long since dead is—the Records of the First Church and Town of Dedham—of Towns within the original limits of Dedham—and of the Probate Office of Suffolk County, in Boston. I have attentively examined them, to glean whatever might be recorded of persons whose history I wished to collect; and have been as minute in my nar-

rative as materials would permit me to be. My task has been a pleasant one ; and I have performed it with the hope, that what I have written will be acceptable to the lineage of Thomas Wight.

DANFORTH PHIPPS WIGHT.

Dedham, Mass., Dec. 10, 1840.

THE WIGHT FAMILY.

FIRST GENERATION.

I.—THOMAS WIGHT.

The Records of the Town of Dedham, Massachusetts, commence in 1635, and from this year is dated the settlement of this place. In these Records, under the date of July 18th, 1637, or as it is there quaintly expressed, "The 18th of y^e^ 5th month, comonly called July 1637," are the names of twelve persons who were admitted inhabitants of the town—in the words of the Records, "producing certificates from the magistrates subscribed unto our covenant accordingly."

One of these persons, Thomas Wight, was my ancestor. He was a native of the Isle of Wight, England, and was driven from his country by the religious persecutions of the time. My authority for the place of his birth and the cause of his coming here is, family tradition. When it is recollected that one of my father's sisters lived to the age of eighty-eight, and one to the age of ninety-one—a

period, half the length of time which has elapsed since the death of Thomas Wight—and that these circumstances were communicated to them by those of his descendants who were aged when they were young, the authority for this statement may be considered as deserving of credit as though it was derived from any written or printed document of his time. That he emigrated from England is certain from contemporary testimony. The Records of the First Church in Dedham commence with a history of the gathering of the church, written by the Rev. John Allin, the first pastor, who was one of the eleven persons admitted to the town with Thomas Wight at the date referred to, in which he remarks of his associates in the township, "being come together by divine providence from severall parts of England; few of them knowne to one another before."

The life and character of Thomas Wight can be known only from what is recorded of him in the Town and Church Records. From these we learn that he came here with a family. The rule adopted by the first settlers of Dedham in the distribution of lands was, that a married man should receive twelve acres, and an unmarried man eight acres. This grant was considered a home lot, and other grounds were afterwards added. The Town Records contain a list of "Lands granted unto sundry men," commencing with the first division after the incorporation of the town in 1636. Among the earliest of these grants is one to Thomas Wight, as follows:

"Thomas Wight twelve Acres more or lesse made up good by an inlarge^{mt} rune in amongst y^{e} Rockes & for woode and timb^{r} as it lyeth y^{e} one side by the highwaye leading into the Rockes for y^{e} most pte & John Luson from that waye upon a lyne Southwest unto y^{e} brooke that compasseth said Wight and soe by that Brooke as that side lyeth next John Luson towards the North. And the other side lyeth by Anthony ffisher throughout wth a c'rteyne p cell of grounde for a Situacon of a house a yeard Roome & ease^{mt} of water by the Brooke wthin the said Antho. ffishers lyne as by the marks & dooles app eth. The one head abutteth upon the waest towards the East and the other upon John Lusons Rockes towards y^{e} west, the high waye leading towards the Ragged playne run^{g} through the same."

I add a few words respecting the boundary lines to facilitate future inquiry. The estate of Anthony Fisher passed out of his family more than half a century ago, and is now the property of Benjamin Bussey of Roxbury. John Luson's estate was sold soon after his decease, and is now divided among a number of owners. The highway, at that day, passed over the hill to the southeast of where it now runs and adjoining the residence of Thomas Wight. The outline of this grant will ever be easily traced by the "Rockes" and the "Brooke."

This is the ground on which he built a house and which has continued in the possession of his descendants to the present time, being now owned in common by the children of the late Ebenezer Wight. The house stood at the foot of a little rise of land on the margin of the plain, on the northwest of the brook and but little distance from it. The one first erected was of slender material and thatched. The framed house which succeeded this,

after remaining nearly two centuries, was recently taken down. To preserve the remembrance of this spot—where was the family hearth two hundred years—the home of six successive generations—I have this year (1840) planted on it an elm tree. To the pilgrim who, in some future day tracing his descent from Thomas Wight, shall come up to this spot in homage to the memory of his ancestors, to him I say, "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground."

The Town Records confirm the remark that Thomas Wight came here with a family. Under the date of 1652, only fifteen years after his arrival, is recorded a sale of land from Thomas Wight "unto Henery Wight his sonne," and also "unto John Wight his sonne." These names all refer to the same family, as there is not on the Records any person of the name of Wight, except Thomas Wight and his descendants.

In addition to the twelve acres granted him for a homestead, are a number of subsequent grants of "planting ground," woodland and meadow. All grants of land were made by the town in town meeting and are recorded, but are not easily traced out at this day. His tillage land, besides his home lot now in the possession of his descendants, consisted of fifteen acres on the east side of the present public road, extending from the cross road bounding his home lot nearly to the great common.

The inhabitants of Dedham conducted the affairs of their community in general town meeting during

three years after the incorporation of the town ; but this being found to be inconvenient on many accounts, in 1639 they committed the management of their municipal interests to selectmen chosen annually.

Thomas Wight was elected selectman six years. His name frequently occurs in the early Records. He took an active part in the concerns of the town, and was repeatedly selected for the performance of various public services. The last recorded instance of his labors for the common weal is in 1650, when he, with others, was deputed by the town to attend to the erection of a village for the Indians at Natick. After this his name does not again appear in connection with town affairs, and only on the lists made out from time to time of the division of lands among the original proprietors, and on the lists of persons assessed for the payment of the public charges.

Henceforth his time and services were diverted into other channels. After residing in Dedham fifteen years, he removed to Medfield with a number of the Dedham people.

The Records of the Town of Medfield commence with a town meeting held in Dedham, November 14, 1649, "for the resolveing and concludeing upon consideration of such things as concerne the village to be erected" at the former place. At this meeting seven men were appointed, of whom Thomas Wight was one, to take charge of the "erecting, disposeing and government of the said village." A covenant was drawn up by their direction and signed

by forty-three persons who were about to remove to this "plantation," of which number were Thomas Wight and his son John. The town of Dedham having thus made provision for the favourable commencement of the new settlement, which was begun almost entirely by persons who had resided for a longer or shorter period within its present limits, voluntarily relinquished all control over them, and Medfield was incorporated in 1650.

Thomas Wight removed from Dedham to Medfield at the close of the year 1652. His name is found in the Medfield Records "att a general assembly" of the inhabitants held December 31st of that year. All his family accompanied him, except Henry, who remained on the paternal estate in Dedham.

In the succeeding year, 1653, he was chosen selectman, and was re-elected almost every year till his decease, a period of twenty years. It is a high encomium upon his native strength of mind and excellence of character, that, with no education, he should have been requested by his fellow citizens in Dedham and Medfield, during so many years, to take an active part in the management of town affairs; for, in both these places, many of his associates in this office were among the best educated and most influential inhabitants.

He lived to a good old age, saw the settlements of Dedham and Medfield grow and flourish, and saw also go down to the grave many of the first settlers of the former place.

He died March 17, 1674.

The character of Thomas Wight may be inferred from the known incidents of his life. That he was respected by his fellow citizens for his understanding and character, is evident from the various public services they called him to perform. Among the first settlers of New England, no man was invested with office by the popular voice, or could attain to influence in society, unless he was a man of inflexible integrity and ardent piety, and was devotedly attached to their religious opinions. He was a Puritan—one of a sect, to which we are indebted for most that is valuable in the institutions and character of New England. The Puritans had their faults, but they were the faults of the age in which they lived; whilst their hatred to tyranny, their love of liberty, their reverence for religion, and their political opinions—which were essentially, practically republican—mark them as far in advance of their contemporaries.

He left his home and country, not impelled by worldly ambition, but burning with a holier fire. He came when he had passed the midday of life, with wife and children around him; when he had much to induce him to remain in his native land, and much to persuade him not to peril his life and theirs on the ocean and in the wilderness. But he estimated the things of this life as dross, in comparison to the value of the possessions which he might attain in the world to come, as unfolded to him in the Scriptures. To interpret these by the light of his own mind; to conform his life to their precepts, as they were impressed upon his under-

standing, he conceived to be the great duty of his life; and he severed the ties which bound him to the homes and sepulchres of his fathers, and came here that he might worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience.—Such was Thomas Wight, more justly a source of pride to his descendants than are to others the records of Heraldry.

He was twice married.—His first wife came with him from England, and was the mother of his children. She undoubtedly favoured his views and opinions, as, without her aid, he could not have sought a new home in a far distant and desert land. We know what were the characters of the early mothers of New England, and we may well conjecture she was like them. Her Christian name was Alice. She and her husband were members of the church in Dedham. In the language of the Records, "Thomas Wight and Alice his wife were received into y^e^ church y^e^ 6th of y^e^ 7 mo: 1640." There is this notice of her death in the Medfield Records: "Alice Wight the wife of Thomas Wight departed this life y^e^ 15th. of July 1665."—His second wife was Lydia Penneman, whom he married December 7th, 1665. She was the widow of James Penneman of Boston, and sister of John Eliot, the Apostle to the Indians.

Thomas and Alice Wight came to Dedham with three sons born in England, and they had two sons and a daughter born in this town. Their children were,

1. Henry born ———
2. John " ———
3. Thomas " ———
4. Samuel " February 5, 1639.
5. Mary ———
6. Ephraim " January 27, 1645.

SECOND GENERATION.

II.—HENRY. (See article, page 49.)

II.—JOHN, son of *Thomas* and *Alice*, was born in England. His name is in the Dedham Records only in the instance before mentioned of a transfer of land from Thomas Wight "unto John Wight his sonne" in 1652. He removed to Medfield the same year, and died September 28, 1653. His name is not in his father's Will, as he was not living at the time it was made. In the settlement of his estate, the Probate Court directed that it be equally divided between his widow Anne and his only child, Abihaile, born (three months after his decease) January 1, 1653—the year commencing in March.

II.—THOMAS, son of *Thomas* and *Alice*, was born in England. His name is not in the Records

of this town or church. He died in Medfield in 1690. The inventory of his estate was taken September 25th of that year. The Christian name of his wife was Mehitabel. They had children,

1. Mehitabel born June 12, 1663.
2. Thomas " October 27, 1665.
3. Miriam " February 20, 1667.
4. Eleazer " June 1, 1670.
5. Joshua " July 25, 1679.

II.—SAMUEL, son of *Thomas* and *Alice*, was born in Dedham February 5, 1639. His baptism is thus noticed in the Church Records: "Samuel the son of our brother Thomas Wight was baptized September 15 1640." He removed to Medfield with his father in 1652. His name is on the list of taxes in Dedham, for property owned there. He married Hannah Albie of Medfield, March 25, 1663, who died April 24, 1723. He died December 21, 1716, aged 77. Their children were,

1. Hannah born March 25, 1664.
2. Samuel " November 11, 1665.
3. Hannah " February 4, 1667.
4. John " May 22, 1670.
5. Nathaniel " October 11, 1672.
6. Benjamin " January 30, 1674.
7. Ahiell " November 3, 1676.
8. Joseph " September 7, 1679.
9. Jonathan " September 11, 1682.

THIRD GENERATION.

III.—JOSEPH, son of *Samuel* and *Hannah*, born September 7, 1679, married Mercy ——, who died January 31, 1724. He removed from Medfield to Bellingham, Mass., in 1729, and died in 1758, aged 79. They had children,

1. Mercy born November 5, 1702.
2. Joseph " January 14, 1704.
3. Samuel " March 8, 1707.
4. Rebekah " June 2, 1709.
5. Keziah " November 22, 1712.
6. Elnathan " ————, 1716.
7. Martha " September 18, 1718.
8. Keziah " January 25, 1724.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—ELNATHAN, son of *Joseph* and *Mercy*, was born in Medfield in 1716. The following sketch of his life and character is taken from a Centennial Discourse delivered at Bellingham in 1822, by Rev. Abial Fisher.—"Respecting the events of his early years we are ignorant. It appears from the town records that he had a part assigned him in the transaction of publick business, before his preparations for the ministry commenced. Being convinced of the necessity of education to the minister of the gospel, he thought it his duty to devote himself to study, previous to his entering

on the work. In contemplating this subject he had many discouragements to meet. He knew that money must be expended, with little hope of receiving any thing like a remuneration for his expenditures. He knew also that the prospect of being supported by his labours as a preacher was very small. In these trials, he sought advice from ministers in the vicinity; but they refused to give him the direction and encouragement he desired and needed, because he did not agree with them on the mode and subjects of baptism. This was peculiarly afflicting to him, as he had none of his own denomination with whom he could consult. He commenced his studies some time this year (1746) under the Rev. Mr. Graham of Southbury, Connect., where he pursued them for more than three years. The languages and theology seem to have occupied most of the time. Mr. Graham was to him a friend and a father. Towards the close of the year 1749 he wished to obtain a license to preach. This he sought from Presbyterian or Congregational ministers; but they refused to license him. When he found he could not be licensed in this way, he, by the advice of Mr. Graham and some others, set out on a journey to New Jersey, to obtain his desire from Baptist ministers; but he found obstructions in the way, and finally returned without reaching the place of his destination. Soon after his return he succeeded in obtaining from Pedobaptist ministers what he had before sought in vain. This was probably through the kindness of Mr. Graham, as he had for a long time been his friend. After he

was licensed, he delayed to commence preaching for some time; and when he approached the time that he was to begin, his feelings were much depressed and his fears very great. He preached his first sermon March 4, 1750, and notwithstanding his previous fears, when he came to preach, he found much composure and satisfaction. May 28, 1750, he was requested by the church in this place to supply them one month as a candidate. At the end of that term, they gave him a call to become their pastor. Aug. 27, same year, Mr. Wight accepted the call of this church and proceeded to preach to them. The small number of Baptists in this quarter at that time, rendered it difficult to obtain assistance in ordaining Mr. Wight, from his own denomination; in consequence of which, application was made for the purpose to Presbyterian ministers; but they did not choose to ordain him. As Mr. Wight held to open communion, he seems to have preferred being ordained by Congregational ministers; but he found that his catholicism was not reciprocated. By these attempts Mr. Wight's ordination was deferred till 1755. On the 14th of January, this year, a council was convened from two Baptist churches. The council was organized and proceeded to examine the candidate; and finding satisfaction, they unanimously agreed to go forward with his ordination. From this time he continued to discharge his duty as a pastor with fidelity and acceptance till his death, which took place November 6, 1761. Thus he was suddenly cut off in the midst of his days, in the 46th year of his age.—Over his temper, which

was naturally quick and irascible, he gained an ascendency which made him a pleasant and instructive companion. He was a studious man. Most if not all his sermons were written out, and he generally read them. They were full of good sense and very doctrinal. But notwithstanding his studiousness, he laboured much with his own hands. His support was always small, amounting at the most to about forty or fifty dollars annually. His views of doctrine were highly Calvinistick, though not Antinomian. On the subject of addressing the calls of the gospel to sinners in general, he agreed with those who hold what has been called general atonement. In regard to the mode and subjects of baptism, he was a Baptist. It is necessary, however, to observe that he held to open communion, especially in the fore part of his ministry. He tried much to unite the Congregationalists and Baptists, thinking, as he says, that the Baptists were uncharitable in refusing to commune with those who were members of Congregational churches. But his exertions were unavailing; he found to his disappointment that his Pedobaptist brethren in general were not so anxious to commune with the Baptists as he supposed. Mr. Wight was a very conscientious man and of distinguished piety, as is evident from his diary and the inscription placed over his door: 'I know that thou wilt bring me to death and to the house appointed for all living.' In his day, Mr. Wight sustained the character of a steadfast, able, enlightened and evangelical preacher."

Elnathan Wight married Abigail Blood August 13, 1754, who died February 26, 1802, aged 84. They had children,

1. Nathan born August 15, 1757.
2. Eliab " June 29, 1760.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—NATHAN, son of *Elnathan* and *Abigail*, born August 15, 1757, married Jerusha Metcalf of Wrentham. They removed from Bellingham to South Brimfield (now Wales, Mass.) in 1803. She died April 8, 1817, aged 57. He removed from Wales to Attica, New York, in 1820, and died in 1832, aged 75. They had children,

1. Pliny born June 2, 1783.
2. James " January 2, 1786.
3. Lucippa " November 28, 1788.
4. Theron " March 23, 1794.
5. Julitta " July 17, 1799.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—PLINY, son of *Nathan* and *Jerusha*, born June 2, 1783, married Anna Fletcher of Wales, October 25, 1806. He settled as a lawyer in Hart-

ford, Conn. They removed from Hartford to Wales, Mass., in 1811. He died June 5, 1835, aged 52. Their children are,

1. Caroline Metcalf born September 20, 1807.
2. Preston Fletcher " April 20, 1809.
3. Leonard Burke " August 31, 1811.
4. Nathan Davenport " May 7, 1813.
5. Mary Lawrence " July 17, 1815.
6. Nancy Haven " February 7, 1818.
7. Jane Damaris " May 11, 1820.
8. Lyman Lincoln " July 21, 1822.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—ELIAB, son of *Elnathan* and *Abigail*, born June 29, 1760, married Jemima Hawes of Franklin, November 23, 1782. She died April 26, 1835, aged 74. He resides in Bellingham. Their children were,

1. Seneca born June 24, 1784.
2. Abigail " October 11, 1786.
3. Patty " June 26, 1788.
4. Amherst " June 15, 1791.
5. Austin " April 6, 1793.
6. Nancy " July 25, 1796.
7. Eliab " July 14, 1798.
8. Jemima " September 8, 1801.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—SENECA, son of *Eliab* and *Jemima*, born June 24, 1784, married Betsey Morse of Medway, October 2, 1817. They reside in Bellingham, and have child,

1. Francis L. born May 29, 1820.

VI.—AMHERST, son of *Eliab* and *Jemima*, born June 15, 1791, graduated at Brown University in 1813. He married Joanna G. Sanderson of Newburgh, New York, April 12, 1826. He is a lawyer in the city of New York, where they reside and have children,

1. Jane Elizabeth born February 28, 1827.
2. Amherst " August 15, 1828.
3. Mary Morrell " August 16, 1831.
4. Julia " September 18, 1833.
5. Jemima Hawes " October 7, 1835.
6. Peter Bonnett " August 1, 1838.

THIRD GENERATION.

III.—JONATHAN, son of *Samuel* and *Hannah*, born September 11, 1682, married Margaret Fair-

banks of Medway, December 14, 1704. He died February 19, 1779, in the 97th year of his age, leaving his widow in the 95th year of her age, with whom he had lived in the married state more than 74 years. She died October 31, 1787, in the 103d year of her age, leaving 97 great grand children and 4 of the fourth generation. They had children,

1. Jonathan born October 11, 1705.
2. John " August 12, 1708.
3. Samuel " November 3, 1711.
4. Phebe " December 14, 1713.
5. Asa " November 18, 1715.
6. Benjamin " June 5, 1720.
7. Aaron " November 13, 1722.
8. William " November 2, 1725.
9. Margaret " December 16, 1729.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—JONATHAN, son of *Jonathan* and *Margaret*, born October 11, 1705, married Sarah Plympton, November 22, 1732. He died March 13, 1782, aged 76. She died July 28, 1798, aged 86. This family was remarkable for longevity. Of 14 children, two died in infancy ; one, Simeon, was a surgeon in the American navy, and was killed, at the age of 27, in an engagement with a British vessel of war in the early part of the Revolution. The remaining eleven lived to the following ages,

1. David	born	August 16, 1733,	died	aged	89.
2. Jonathan	"	November 9, 1734,	"	"	95.
3. Sarah	"	January 4, 1735,	"	"	98.
4. Simeon	"	October 25, 1737,	"	"	—.
5. Lois	"	October 11, 1738,	"	"	92.
6. Eunice	"	July 9, 1740,	"	"	77.
7. Moses	"	Feb. 24, 1741, M.	"	"	—.
8. Aaron	"	Feb. 24, 1741, A.	"	"	71.
9. Silence	"	December 11, 1743,	"	"	73.
10. Moses	"	October 30, 1745,	"	"	83.
11. Thankful	"	December 8, 1747,	"	"	76.
12. Simeon	"	March 20, 1750,	"	"	—.
13. Henry	"	May 26, 1752,	"	"	85.
14. Job	"	March 9, 1755,	"	"	54.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—JONATHAN, son of *Jonathan* and *Sarah*, born November 9, 1734, married Lois Clark of Medfield, who died September 6, 1801. He died June 12, 1830, aged 95. Their children were,

1. Amos	born	November 15, 1760.
2. Nathan	"	December 7, 1762.
3. Sarah	"	December 27, 1764.
4. Margaret	"	February 12, 1767.
5. Jonathan	"	July 12, 1769.
6. Nathan	"	February 2, 1772.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—JONATHAN, son of *Jonathan* and *Lois*, born July 12, 1769, married Sarah Harding of Med-

field, January 8, 1794. They reside in that town and have children,

1. Sally born August 16, 1794.
2. Jonathan " January 2, 1796.
3. Orion " February 19, 1799.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—JONATHAN, son of *Jonathan* and *Sarah*, born January 2, 1796, married Clarissa Eames of Framingham, June 3, 1824. They reside in Medfield and have had children,

1. Clarissa Maria born December 17, 1826.
2. Jonathan Henry " July 27, 1828.
3. Hamlet " October 14, 1830.
4. Ellen " September 10, 1837.

VII.—ORION, son of *Jonathan* and *Sarah*, born February 19, 1799, married Charlotte Adams of Medway, June 8, 1826. They reside in Medfield and have had children,

1. Mary Jane born March 28, 1827.
2. Harriet Adams " April 20, 1828.
3. Henry Francis " November 17, 1829.
4. Eliza Adeline " April 24, 1831.
5. George Horatio " June 18, 1832.
6. Margaret Ellen " November 30, 1833.
7. Orion Laprelette " April 6, 1835.
8. Jonathan Gardner " May 16, 1836.
9. Sarah Harding " August 21, 1837.

10. Jonathan Gardner born December 10, 1838.
11. Harriet Hepzibeth " July 9, 1840.
12. Charlotte Arathutia " August 3, 1842.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—HENRY, son of *Jonathan* and *Sarah*, was born in Medfield, May 26, 1752. He graduated at Harvard University in 1782, and was ordained over the Congregational Church and Society in Bristol, Rhode Island, January 5, 1785. The following extract is from a notice of him in the American Quarterly Register, Vol. xii.

"Mr. Wight was for many years one of the fellows of Brown University, and in 1811 he received from that College the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He continued sole pastor of the church until 1815, when he was furnished with a colleague.—November 11, 1828, at his own request his connection with the church, having continued nearly 44 years, was dissolved. Dr. Wight continued to reside in the place, and occasionally officiated in the services of the sanctuary until his decease in 1837, (Aug. 12,) aged 85; more than 52 of which were spent in the work of the ministry. The labors of Dr. Wight were blessed in the town. He was a man of amiable disposition and devoted

piety. He retained the affections and the confidence of the people until his death, and his grave was bedewed with the tears of many who were brought into the kingdom of the Redeemer under his ministrations."

A writer in the Boston Recorder, Vol. xxii., remarks of him, "Dr. Wight followed the good old custom of the Fathers of New England in keeping a daily record of events as they transpired, that were of a noticeable character. No occurrence of moment has transpired about him to his knowledge for the last 70 years, it is believed, which may not be found faithfully recorded in his Diary. He loved and preached the doctrines of the Reformation; pre-eminently the doctrines of the Bible; their practical influence on his own heart and life were remarkable. He was a man of meek and quiet temper, of truly catholic spirit. During his last years, no book was so frequently seen on his table as the Bible. When deprived of meeting with the people of God on the Sabbath, his custom was, to read the Word, sing and pray in his private room. There his soul ripened for the purer worship of the sanctuary above, in which he now participates."

Henry Wight married Alice Burrington of Tiverton, R. I. in 1789. In 1799 he married Clarissa Leonard of Raynham, Mass. His children were,

1. John Burt born May 7, 1790.
2. Henry " November 5, 1791.
3. Alice Burrington " February 10, 1800.

4. Abigail Alden born October 21, 1802.
5. Martha " ———, 1803.
6. Clara Leonard " ———, 1807.
7. Fanny " ———, 1816.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—JOHN BURT, son of *Henry* and *Alice*, born May 7, 1790; graduated at Brown University in 1808; was ordained over the Congregational Society in Wayland, Mass. January 25, 1815, and dismissed at his own request, May, 1835. He married Sarah Grout of East Sudbury, January 1, 1818. They reside in Wayland and have had children,

1. Martha born October 30, 1818.
2. Henry " January 16, 1820.
3. Sarah " December 11, 1822.
4. John " January 6, 1825.

VI.—HENRY, son of *Henry* and *Alice*, born November 5, 1791, married Abby Wardwell of Bristol, January 23, 1817. They removed from Bristol to Decatur County, Georgia, in 1830. They have had children,

1. William Henry born December 11, 1817.
2. Abby Wardwell " September 14, 1819.
3. Samuel Bowen " April 1, 1821.
4. John Bowen " March 20, 1823.
5. Byron Diman " December 29, 1830.
6. George Wardwell " February 13, 1834.

VI.—ALICE BURRINGTON, daughter of *Henry* and *Clarissa*, born February 10, 1800, married Charles Henry Alden, June 6, 1825. They have children,

1. Abby Frances born July 4, 1827.
2. Georgianna " April 12, 1830.
3. Charles Henry " April 20, 1836.

VI.—ABIGAIL ALDEN, daughter of *Henry* and *Clarissa*, born October 21, 1802, married Byron Diman of Bristol, June 1, 1823. They have children,

1. George Byron born May 16, 1824.
2. Clarianna " April 1, 1828.
3. Lewis " May 1, 1831.
4. Henry Wight " April 2, 1835.
5. Abby Byron " May 7, 1838.

VI.—CLARA LEONARD, daughter of *Henry* and *Clarissa*, born in 1807, married William M. Rowland of Augusta, Geo., August 1830. They have children,

1. William born ————, 1831.
2. Alice " ————, 1837.
3. Fanny " ————, 1839.
4. Marianne " ————, 1841.

VI.—FANNY, daughter of *Henry* and *Clarissa*, born in 1816, married Robert L. Cleveland of Lawrenceville, Geo. in 1839.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—JOB, son of *Jonathan* and *Sarah*, was born in Medfield, March 9, 1755, and graduated at Harvard University in 1784. He studied divinity, and was employed many years as a Congregational missionary in the western part of the State of New York, but never settled in the ministry. He died at Saratoga, December 9, 1809, aged 54 years. He was a bachelor. His qualifications as a preacher were not of a high order. His eccentricities greatly impaired his usefulness, and rendered almost valueless his respectable talents and learning.

SECOND GENERATION.

II.—MARY, daughter of *Thomas* and *Alice*, was born in Dedham. This may be inferred from the order in which her name occurs in her father's Will; in which, probably, the children were named according to their seniority. There is no notice of her in the Records of this Town or Church. She married Thomas Ellis of Medfield, May 21, 1659, who died December 12, 1690. She died March 7, 1693. Their children were,

1. Mary	born	September 26, 1660.
2. Abielle	"	October 15, 1662.
3. Samuel	"	November 9, 1664.
4. Thomas	"	January 10, 1666.
5. Patience	"	February 22, 1668.
6. Ruth	"	October 31, 1670.
7. Thomas	"	July 24, 1674.
8. Johanna	"	January 17, 1677.

The birth of her daughter Juda, whose name is mentioned in the Will of her father, is not recorded.

II.—EPHRAIM, son of *Thomas* and *Alice*, was born in Dedham, January 27, 1645. His baptism is recorded the 8th of the following month. He removed to Medfield with his father in 1652. His name occurs on the list of taxes in Dedham. He married Lydia Morse of Medfield, March 2, 1668, who died July 14, 1722. He died February 26, 1722, aged 77. They had children,

1. Lydia	born	March 14, 1669.
2. Esther	"	January 13, 1670.
3. Ephraim	"	January 25, 1672.
4. Miriam	"	August 22, 1675.
5. Nathaniel	"	September 12, 1678.
6 Daniel	"	November 19, 1680.
7. Bethia	"	March 8, 1683.
8. Deborah	"	December 1, 1685.
9. Ruth	"	July 20, 1688.

THIRD GENERATION.

III.—EPHRAIM, son of *Ephraim* and *Lydia*, born January 25, 1672, married Sarah Patridge of

Medfield, September 14, 1702, and died February 1, 1743, aged 71. They had children,

1. Steven born June 21, 1703.
2. Sarah " October 19, 1706.
3. Seth " December 7, 1707.
4. Seth " October 9, 1709.
5. Caleb " April 21, 1711.
6. Ruth " June 23, 1713.
7. Mary " November 10, 1717.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—SETH, son of *Ephraim* and *Sarah*, born October 9, 1709, married Sarah Pratt of Medfield, March 10, 1741, who died October 12, 1746. He married Hannah Morse of that town, March 14, 1751. He died February 1780, aged 70. His children were,

1. Joel born December 27, 1741.
2. Olive " August 21, 1743.
3. Nahum " May 15, 1745.
4. Eneas " December 16, 1751.
5. Seth " January 20, 1753.
6. Sarah " February 28, 1758.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—JOEL, son of *Seth* and *Sarah*, born December 27, 1741, married Elizabeth Twitchell of Sher-

burne, May 18, 1768. They removed from Medfield to Dublin, N. H. in 1769. She died April 19, 1800, aged 55. He removed from Dublin to Gilead, Me. in 1818, and died February 19, 1824, aged 82. They had children,

1.	Hannah	born	March 11, 1769.
2.	Ephraim	"	May 20, 1771.
3.	Eli	"	May 19, 1773.
4.	Anna	"	August 23, 1775.
5.	Olive	"	April 30, 1777.
6.	Elizabeth	"	December 27, 1780.
7.	Seth	"	May 21, 1783.
8.	Eli	"	March 23, 1786.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—HANNAH, daughter of *Joel* and *Elizabeth*, born March 11, 1769, married John W. Learned, March 2, 1797. They reside in Dublin, N. H. and have had children,

1.	Persis	born	December 3, 1797.
2.	Harvey	"	May 24, 1799.
3.	Eliza	"	February 2, 1801.
4.	Ira	"	March 25, 1803.
5.	Calvin	"	March 25, 1804.
6.	Hannah	"	July 11, 1806.
7.	John W.	"	September 6, 1808.
8.	Dexter	"	January 24, 1811.

VI.—EPHRAIM, son of *Joel* and *Elizabeth*, born May 20, 1771, married Susannah Patch, No-

vember 15, 1797. He died October 3, 1826, aged 55. They resided in Gilead, Me. and had children,

1. William born May 26, 1799.
2. Eliza " February 10, 1801.
3. Gardner " May 26, 1803.
4. Timothy " January 13, 1805.
5. Emily " March 21, 1807.
6. Caleb " February 26, 1809.
7. Polly " May 3, 1811.
8. Susannah " June 25, 1813.
9. Almira " June 28, 1815.
10. Hannah " December 6, 1817.
11. Ephraim " May 6, 1820.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—WILLIAM, son of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born May 26, 1799, married Phebe Mason, March 31, 1824, who died August 29, 1836. He married Hannah Stearns, March 22, 1838, resides in Gilead, Me. and has had children,

1. William Quincy born April 3, 1825.
2. Cordelia Eliza " September 12, 1826.
3. Maria Matilda " March 20, 1828.
4. Lorenzo " January 18, 1830.
5. Phebe " February 18, 1834.
6. Henry " April 30, 1840.

VII.—ELIZA, daughter of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born February 10, 1801, married Elijah Richardson, November 3, 1819. She died August 13,

1832. They resided in Gilead, Me. and had children,

1. Almond born March 20, 1823.
2. Timothy " March 28, 1825.
3. Eliza " January 30, 1828.
4. Samuel " March 25, 1830.

VII.—GARDNER, son of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born May 26, 1803, married Rachael Stiles, September 23, 1824. They reside in Gilead, Me. and have children,

1. Rhoda born April 17, 1828.
2. Susannah " August 8, 1831.
3. Antoinette " December 3, 1834.

VII.—TIMOTHY, son of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born January 13, 1805, married Mary Ann Green, May 13, 1828. They reside in Gilead, Me. and have children,

1. Lorentia born January 16, 1829.
2. Silvina " April 25, 1830.
3. Obando " January 25, 1832.
4. Ephraim " December 16, 1834.
5. Wesley " May 26, 1836.
6. Lydia " October 4, 1839.
7. John " March 2, 1842.

VII.—CALEB, son of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born February 26, 1809, married Fanny Burbank,

October 2, 1839. They reside in Gilead, Me. and have children,

1. Eliza born December 4, 1840.
2. Ellen " June 11, 1842.

VII.—POLLY, daughter of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born May 3, 1811, married Freeman Bean, April 8, 1840. They reside in Bethel, Me.

VII.—SUSANNAH, daughter of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born June 25, 1813, married Harvey Philbrook, November 6, 1834. They reside in Shelburne, N. H. and have children,

1. Arabella born April 17, 1835.
2. Samuel D. " March 8, 1838.
3. John M. " April 9, 1840.
4. Charles E. " June 30, 1842.

VII.—HANNAH, daughter of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born December 6, 1817, married Eliphalet Burbank, April 8, 1840. They reside in Gilead, Me.

VII.—EPHRAIM, son of *Ephraim* and *Susannah*, born May 6, 1820, married Priscilla Burbank, March 31, 1841. They reside in Randolph, N. H.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—OLIVE, daughter of *Joel* and *Elizabeth*, born April 30, 1777, married Isaac Adams, August, 1803. They reside in Gilead, Me. and have children,

1. Eliphalet born February 23, 1804.
2. Darius " April 1, 1805;
   graduated at Bowdoin College in 1830.
3. Samuel born December 19, 1806;
   graduated at Bowdoin College in 1831.
4. Deborah born March 23, 1808.
5. Lucy " January 9, 1810.
6. Aphia " October 3, 1811.
7. Isaac " July 23, 1813.
8. Israel " May 26, 1814.
9. Olive " October 31, 1818.

VI.—ELIZABETH, daughter of *Joel* and *Elizabeth*, born December 27, 1780, married Josiah Stearns, November 28, 1805. They reside in Gilead, Me. and have had children,

1. Eri born June 19, 1806.
2. Joel " December 6, 1807.
3. Eliza " March 23, 1809.
4. Rufus " April 14, 1811.
5. Olive " April 7, 1813.

VI.—SETH, son of *Joel* and *Elizabeth*, born May 21, 1783, married Lydia Mason of Bethel, Me. April 9, 1807. They reside in Gilead, Me. and have had children,

1. Nahum born November 20, 1807.
2. Almira " July 9, 1809.
3. Daniel Ormsby " March 1, 1811.
4. Rebecca Hayward " December 22, 1812.
5. Seth " August 8, 1815.
6. Eli " January 16, 1818;
   graduated at Bowdoin College in 1840.
7. Mary Moore born January 22, 1820.
8. Lydia Mason " February 9, 1822.
9. Harriot Delphina " May 7, 1824.
10. Alexander Patrick " March 17, 1827.
11. Joseph " February 12, 1829.
12. Franklin Adams " March 2, 1830.
13. Esther Sewall " August 6, 1832.
14. Joel W. L. " October 1, 1835.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—NAHUM, son of *Seth* and *Lydia*, born November 20, 1807, graduated Doctor of Medicine at Bowdoin College in 1832. He married Mary Ann Straw of Newfield, Me. September 2, 1833. They reside in Gilmanton, N. H. and have had children,

1. Nahum O'Neil born July 24, 1834.
2. Mary Robinson " February 2, 1836.
3. Lydia Mason " March 14, 1838.
4. Agnes Straw " August 12, 1840.
5. Mary Robinson } born August 30, 1842.
6. Abert Robinson }

VII.—DANIEL ORMSBY, son of *Seth* and *Lydia*, born March 1, 1811, married Julia Ann

Peabody in 1833. They reside in Calais, Me. and have had children,

1. Mary Ann born November 25, 1833.
2. Julia Ann " September 26, 1835.
3. Celia Ann " November 10, 1838.
4. Daniel Ormsby " December 7, 1840.

VII.—REBECCA HAYWARD, daughter of *Seth* and *Lydia*, born December 22, 1812, married Asa Peabody, December 7, 1833. They reside in Gilead, Me. and have children,

1. Asa F. born January 3, 1835.
2. William R. " January 30, 1837.
3. Eli F. " January 15, 1839.
4. Charles H. " June 24, 1841.

VII.—SETH, son of *Seth* and *Lydia*, born August 8, 1815, married Barbara Ann Bean, December 13, 1838. They reside in Bethel, Me. and have children,

1. Augusta W. born September 29, 1839.
2. Eli Mellen " May 4, 1841.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—ELI, son of *Joel* and *Elizabeth*, born March 23, 1786, married Fanny Chaplin, December 31, 1812, and died April 15, 1834, aged 48. They resided in Bethel, Me. and had children,

1. Eli D. born November 12, 1813.
2. Sarah P. " November 17, 1815.
3. George G. " November 3, 1818.
4. Eli D. " June 10, 1821.
5. Elizabeth " March 9, 1828.
6. Seth O. " October 17, 1831.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—NAHUM, son of *Seth* and *Sarah*, born May 15, 1745, married Abigail Bullard of Sherburne, January 3, 1778. They removed from Medfield to Westford, Mass. in 1799. He died September 18, 1834, aged 89. Their children were,

1. Sally born April 4, 1781.
2. Walter " November 8, 1782.
3. Caleb " October 8, 1786.
4. Hannah " June 25, 1798.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—CALEB, son of *Nahum* and *Abigail*, born October 8, 1786, married Mary Osgood of Westford, March 20, 1811. They reside in Westford, and have had children,

1. Mary Ann born December 29, 1811.
2. Joanna " August 29, 1813.
3. Harriot " July 7, 1815.
4. Otis Caleb " August 12, 1817; graduated at Dartmouth College in 1842.
5. Caroline born April 8, 1819.
6. Lucy Osgood " May 4, 1821.
7. Nancy " November 19, 1823.
8. Gilbert Nahum " January 17, 1826.
9. Jane " May 15, 1828.
10. Henry Martyn " August 1, 1831.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—SETH, son of *Seth* and *Hannah*, born January 20, 1753, married Mary Wight of Medfield, October 30, 1772. They removed from Medfield to Dover, Mass. in 1773. He died July 14, 1799, aged 46. She died February 22, 1834, aged 81. They had children,

1. Aaron born March 3, 1773.
2. Caleb " August 22, 1775.
3. Oliver " August 1, 1777.
4. Mary " June 19, 1780.
5. Nabby " December 22, 1783.
6. Clarissa " November 3, 1785.
7. Asa " February 25, 1788.
8. Cynthia " June 7, 1790.
9. Arnold " May 19, 1793.
10. Charlotte " July 16, 1795.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—AARON, son of *Seth* and *Mary*, born March 3, 1773, married Abigail Smith of Medfield, June 1, 1800. They removed from Dover to Medway, Mass. in 1810. They have children,

1. Seth born April 17, 1801.
2. Charles " December 26, 1802.
3. Ira " December 6, 1804.
4. Aaron " June 25, 1807.
5. Alvin " March 10, 1810.
6. Abigail " June 13, 1817.

VI.—CALEB, son of *Seth* and *Mary*, born August 22, 1775, married Vince Morse of Sherburne, Mass. in 1800. They reside in Dover, and have had children,

1. Orin born July 15, 1800.
2. Mary " June 17, 1804.
3. Betsey " September 8, 1807.

VI.—OLIVER, son of *Seth* and *Mary*, born August 1, 1777, married Mary Russel of Sherburne, in 1800. They reside in Dover, and have children,

1. Eliza born February 11, 1801.
2. Joseph " March 16, 1803.
3. Horace " December 14, 1805.

VI.—ASA, son of *Seth* and *Mary*, born February 25, 1788, married Sybil Holbrook of Sherburne, October 6, 1814. They reside in Dover, and have had children,

1. James Holbrook born July 21, 1816.
2. Harrison " April 5, 1818.
3. Henry " November 24, 1819.
4. Frederick " July 13, 1821.
5. Sybil Augusta " June 13, 1823.
6. Frederick Harrison " December 4, 1827.

VI.—ARNOLD, son of *Seth* and *Mary*, born May 19, 1793, married Dolly Graves of Medfield, June 13, 1827. They reside in Dover, and have had children,

1. Arnold born April 24, 1828.
2. Charlotte " December 23, 1829.
3. Mary " September 3, 1837.

THIRD GENERATION.

III.—DANIEL, son of *Ephraim* and *Lydia*, born November 19, 1680, married Lydia Easter of Medfield, April 18, 1721, who died January 16, 1748. He died September 19, 1744, aged 64. They had children,

1. Peter born May 21, 1722.
2. Bathsheba " March 6, 1723.
3. Ephraim " June 26, 1729.
4. Dinah " December 1, 1732.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—PETER, son of *Daniel* and *Lydia*, born May 21, 1722, married Mary ——— of Medfield. They removed from Medfield to Medway. He died March 16, 1800, aged 77. They had children,

1. Daniel born October 4, 1753.
2. Dinah " April 18, 1758.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—DANIEL, son of *Peter* and *Mary*, born October 4, 1753, married Polly Puffer of Wrentham,

January 11, 1781. They removed from Medway to Wrentham in 1783, and to South Brimfield, (now Wales,) Mass. in 1791. He died January 20, 1800, aged 46. She died October 7, 1822, aged 68. They had children,

1.	Emery	born	July 27, 1781.
2.	Polly	"	August 6, 1782.
3.	George Puffer	"	November 3, 1783.
4.	Ephraim	"	August 30, 1785.
5.	Ann Fisher	"	March 22, 1787.
6.	Sally	"	September 14, 1790.
7.	Ephraim	"	February 24, 1792.
8.	Daniel	"	June 14, 1793.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—EMERY, son of *Daniel* and *Polly*, born July 27, 1781, married Abigail Stewart of South Brimfield, January 1806. She died March 1826, aged 42. He married Sally King of Madison, September 23, 1828, resides in Vernon, N. Y., and has had children,

1.	Parker	born	————.
2.	Sally	"	September 14, 1808.
3.	Emery	"	September 2, 1809.
4.	Abigail	"	————.
5.	Eveline	"	October 26, 1819.
6.	Maria Groves	"	August 4, 1830.
7.	Harriot	"	November 21, 1832.
8.	Mary	"	May 7, 1835.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—EMERY, son of *Emery* and *Abigail*, born September 2, 1809, married Phebe McLain of Lockwood, New Jersey, July 4, 1833. They reside in that town and have children,

1. Sarah Elizabeth born March 21, 1834.
2. Josephine " January 23, 1841.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—GEORGE PUFFER, son of *Daniel* and *Polly*, born November 3, 1783, married Hannah Ferry of Palmer, June 12, 1810. They reside in Brimfield, Mass. and have children,

1. George Washington born February 12, 1811.
2. Nancy Elizabeth " September 17, 1814.
3. Daniel " July 21, 1820.

VI.—DANIEL, son of *Daniel* and *Polly*, born June 14, 1793, married Roxanna Kingsbury of Coventry, Conn., September 20, 1815. She died July 21, 1828, aged 32. He married Sophrone

Porter of that town, March 30, 1836, resides in Troy, N. Y., and has had children,

1. Sereno Edwin born September 28, 1816.
2. Cornelia " October 6, 1818.
3. William Ward " February 4, 1821.
4. Joseph Kingsbury " February 9, 1824; graduated at Williams College in 1843.
5. George born July 1, 1828.
6. Edwin Mather " October 31, 1836.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—WILLIAM WARD, son of *Daniel* and *Roxanna*, born February 4, 1821, married Lydia Ann Potwine Van Akin, of Hudson, Michigan, July 10, 1844. They reside in Troy, N. Y.

SECOND GENERATION.

II.—HENRY WIGHT.

HENRY WIGHT, son of *Thomas* and *Alice Wight*, was born in England, and came with his parents to Dedham in 1637. He became a member of this church August 14th, 1646, and was admitted a freeman May 26th, 1647. Under the date of 1652 is recorded the sale of two acres of land which "Thomas Wight doe alienate and grante unto Henery Wight his sonne." His name occurs for the first time in the Records, in connection with town affairs, in 1653, when he was appointed to the discharge of one of the town offices.

He was the only one of his father's children who passed his life in Dedham. All the other members of the family removed to Medfield in 1652. He seems to have been a favourite of his father, who, in his Will, calls him "my well beloved son." He gave him all his "houses and lands lying and being in Dedham." This estate is the one in which was included the grant of twelve acres to Thomas Wight, as one of the original proprietors of Dedham, and on which he built a house and resided a number of years.

In 1665 is recorded a grant of land to Henry Wight, of one hundred and twenty acres; but no reasons are assigned for this large and unusual gift. All these grants were favours conferred by the town on individuals, according to their necessities or public usefulness. The Records contain but a few instances of so large a grant being made.

The following record occurs Nov. 25th, 1678: "Granted to Henery Wight so much timber of the Towne comon land as will make a dwelling House for his Son Joseph Wight and to take also two or three loads of pine timber for bord for the say[d] House."—This house was annexed to the one then occupied by Henry Wight and built by his father, making one mansion, which was, for some years, the residence of the sixth generation of the family; but is now taken down.

He was frequently appointed by the town to further public measures; was selectman ten years, and held the office at the time of his decease. He died February 27th, 1680. There is this notice of the event in the Records under date of the following March 14th. "At a Generall Meeteing it was proposed to the Town whether they would chose another selectman in the room of Serg[t] Wight deceased."

As he came to this town with the first settlers, and at an age when he would soon be able to enter into the views and participate in the measures adopted by the leading men of the community, he may be considered one of its founders. That he was useful in his day and generation, we have rea-

son to believe from the instances of public regard shown him by those who were best qualified to judge of his merits. They intrusted to him their interests because they had confidence in his integrity and ability. His religious opinions were the same as those of the elder members of the society who had here planted a vine to the Lord, and watered and nurtured it with many prayers. He was among the last survivors of the company which came to Dedham at the first settlement of the town. He and his associates subjected themselves to severe trials, and joyfully endured great privations, that they might here secure, to themselves and to their posterity, the inestimable blessings of civil and religious liberty.

The Christian name of his wife was Jane. There is this notice of her admission to the church:—"The wife of brother Henry Wight was joined to this church June 12, 1653."—She died May 16, 1684. The children of Henry and Jane Wight were,

1. John born December 13, 1652.
2. Joseph " May 11, 1654.
3. Daniel " November 24, 1656.
4. Benjamin " June 18, 1659.
5. Jonathan " July 2, 1662.

THIRD GENERATION.

III.—JOSEPH. (See article, page 60.)

III.—DANIEL, son of *Henry* and *Jane*, born November 24, 1656, married Annah Dueing, February 17, 1686, who died May 10, 1725. He died May 1, 1719, aged 63. They had children,

1. David born December 19, 1686.
2. Daniel " January 25, 1690.
3. John " April 22, 1699.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—DANIEL, son of *Daniel* and *Annah*, born January 25, 1690, married Susanna Kinch of Needham, November 14, 1751. He removed from Dedham to that town, and died February 28, 1773, aged 83. They had children,

1. Benjamin born ————.
2. Ann " February 26, 1754.
3. Daniel " March 22, 1756.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—DANIEL, son of *Daniel* and *Susanna*, born March 22, 1756, married Miriam Fairbanks of Medway, who died August 1779, aged 33. They had son,

1. Daniel born October 19, 1778.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—DANIEL, son of *Daniel* and *Miriam*, born October 19, 1778, married Zillah Goulding of Natick, Mass. June 9, 1802. They reside in that town, and have had children,

1. Eleazer Goulding born December 16, 1803.
2. Ede Goulding " September 6, 1805.
3. Daniel " September 18, 1808.
4. Miriam Fairbanks, " August 3, 1811.
5. Mary " May 26, 1814.
6. Willard Amory " April 21, 1816.
7. Mary Matilda " October 3, 1818.
8. Eleanor Curtis " June 27, 1821.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—DANIEL, son of *Daniel* and *Zillah*, born September 18, 1808, graduated at Harvard University in 1837, and was ordained over the First Congregational Church in Scituate, Mass. September 28, 1842. He married Lucy Flint, of Reading, September 25, 1842. They have child,

1. Lucy Ellen born July 25, 1843.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—JOHN, son of *Daniel* and *Annah*, was born in Dedham, April 22d, 1699. He graduated at Harvard University in 1721. The same year his name occurs in the Town Records as "Sir Wight," being employed by the Town as a schoolmaster. He was engaged in this service as late as 1740. During this interval he was also a preacher in this and the adjoining Provinces.—There is this allusion to his settlement in the ministry, in the Church Records: "October 16, 1743. Upon the desire of Mr. John Wight, the church voted his dismission and letters testimonial in order to his regular imbodying with those who purpose (God willing) to lay in the foundation of a church in New Marblehead, in the Eastern country." This town is in the State of Maine, and is now called Windham, where he was ordained over the Congregational Society, December 14th, 1743. He continued his labors among the people of his charge till his decease.—He married Mary Pond of Dedham, July 3d, 1728.—In the Town Records is this reference to them: "Daniel son of y^{e} Rev. Mr. John Wight and Mrs. Mary Wight deceased April 19, 1749," probably when they were on a visit to their relatives here.—He died May 8th, 1753, aged 54 years, leaving no issue.

THIRD GENERATION.

III.—JONATHAN, son of *Henry* and *Jane*, born July 2, 1662, removed from Dedham to Wrentham, where he married Elizabeth ———, April 19, 1687. He died March 20, 1718, aged 55. They had children,

1.	Jeane	born	September 6, 1688.
2.	Elizabeth	"	June 28, 1692.
3.	Mehitabel	"	September 6, 1694.
4.	Marah	"	October 13, 1696.
5.	Jonathan	"	January 6, 1700.
6.	Sarah	"	July 19, 1703.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—JONATHAN, son of *Jonathan* and *Elizabeth*, born January 6, 1700, married Jemima Whiting of Wrentham, February 13, 1720, who died June 24, 1754. He died March 26, 1773, aged 73. Their children were,

1.	Jonathan	born	August 25, 1723.
2.	Jemima	"	October 22, 1725.
3.	Benjamin	"	December 12, 1727.
4.	Joseph	"	December 29, 1729.
5.	Eliphalet	"	February 23, 1731.
6.	Elizabeth	"	July 14, 1735.
7.	Susanna	"	July 30, 1737.
8.	Timothy	"	November 10, 1741.
9.	Zubiah	"	June 3, 1743.
10.	Olive	"	November 29, 1745.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—JOSEPH, son of *Jonathan* and *Jemima*, born December 29, 1729, married Abigail Farrington of Wrentham, September 22, 1755, who died August 25, 1758, aged 21.—He married Abigail Ware of that town, June 9, 1763. They removed from Wrentham to Otisfield, Maine, in 1784. She died March 29, 1799, aged 58. He died October 20, 1804, aged 74. They had children,

1. Joseph born August 10, 1758.
2. Benjamin " September 20, 1764.
3. James " March 21, 1769.
4. Thomas " August 19, 1771.
5. Nathan " October 23, 1773.
6. Jonathan " September 7, 1783.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—JOSEPH, son of *Joseph* and *Abigail*, born August 10, 1758, married Olive Mann of Wrentham, August 4, 1783. He is a physician, and resides in Raymond, Me. They have had children,

1. Virgil born February 10, 1785.
2. Abigail " April 16, 1787.
3. Horatio " April 1, 1789.
4. Roxy " July 31, 1791.
5. Calista " October 16, 1794.
6. Barclay " September 15, 1796.
7. Nelson " January 11, 1799.

8. Patience born June 14, 1801.
9. Marcus " February 15, 1804.
10. Joseph " August 8, 1806.
11. Kaphira " January 21, 1809.

VI.—BENJAMIN, son of *Joseph* and *Abigail*, born September 20, 1764, married Betty Hancock of Otisfield, in 1783, and resides there. They have had children,

1. Betty born June 30, 1788.
2. Eleanor " June 21, 1790.
3. Julia " August 19, 1792.
4. Jerusha " September 15, 1794.
5. Eunice " September 1, 1797.
6. Polly " July 1, 1800.
7. Sally " December 8, 1801.
8. Benjamin " February 2, 1804.
9. Benjamin F. " September 27, 1806.
10. Dolly " April 10, 1810.
11. Jane " September 10, 1813.

VI.—JAMES, son of *Joseph* and *Abigail*, born March 21, 1769, married Jane Clafflin of Holliston, Mass. in 1793, where he resides. They have children,

1. James born ————, 1793.
2. Joseph W. " August 13, 1794.
3. Milton " May 19, 1802.
4. William " February 29, 1808.

VI.—THOMAS, son of *Joseph* and *Abigail*, born August 19, 1771, married Hannah Knight of Fal-

mouth, Me. February 9, 1797, and resides in Otisfield. They have had children,

1. Margaret born July 21, 1798.
2. Joseph W. " May 11, 1800.
3. Sylvia " April 11, 1802.
4. Mary Ann " March 19, 1804.
5. Martha " October 30, 1805.
6. Samuel K. " March 4, 1808.
7. Sarah " May 16, 1810.
8. Thomas " February 23, 1812.
9. Mary K. " March 29, 1814.
10. David M. " July 13, 1817.

VI.—NATHAN, son of *Joseph* and *Abigail*, born October 23, 1773, married Abigail Hancock of Otisfield, in 1798. She died February, 1824. He died July 22, of the same year, aged 50. They resided in Otisfield, and had children,

1. Mary born December 13, 1798.
2. James " April 19, 1800.
3. Eliphalet " February 16, 1802.
4. Mary " January 14, 1804.
5. Nathan " December 20, 1805.
6. Susan " December 27, 1807.
7. Eunice " January 12, 1810.
8. Joseph " March 26, 1812.
9. William " May 26, 1815.
10. Abigail " December 29, 1817.
11. Jerusha " February 4, 1820.

VI.—JONATHAN, son of *Joseph* and *Abigail*, born September 7, 1783, married Marcy Harmon, July 6, 1805. They reside in Naples, Me. and have had children,

1. Elvira born April 16, 1807.
2. Herman " July 14, 1808.
3. Priscilla " April 7, 1810.
4. Abigail " March 10, 1812.
5. Edward " April 2, 1815.
6. Olive " February 22, 1817.
7. David " September 7, 1819.
8. Joseph " June 20, 1822.
9. Nathan " September 23, 1824.
10. Mary " January 2, 1827.
11. Addison " August 18, 1829.

THIRD GENERATION.

III.—JOSEPH WIGHT.

JOSEPH WIGHT, son of *Henry* and *Jane Wight*, was born in Dedham, May 11th, 1654. When he arrived at manhoood, the first settlers had almost all passed off the stage, or age had deprived them of the power longer to take an active part in the concerns of the community. They had laid, broad and deep, the foundation of a new order of things in church and state; but the superstructure was now to be erected by other hands—by those who were born on the soil. Deprived as these were of the advantages of education, which their fathers had enjoyed, and of the experience in public affairs which they acquired in the mother country, the task before them was arduous and the responsibility great. But good seed had been sown in the minds of the rising generation. The principles, for which the fathers had made such sacrifices, had taken deep root in the hearts of the children, and led them onward to continue the work the former had commenced.

He was much employed in town affairs; was selectman eighteen years, and town clerk thirteen.

He was thirty-three years a Deacon in the First Church; an office conferred by our fathers upon those only whom they highly esteemed for their work's sake. These expressions of public approbation, in town and church, during so long a period, are a sure indication that he performed the various duties committed to him, faithfully and ably.

He was a man of superior judgment and of an excellent understanding; and was eminent for piety and sanctity of life. It is illustrative of the opinions and usages of his time, and proof of the high estimation in which he was held, that, in his old age, many parents carried their young children to him that he might implore for them the favour of Heaven.

In my youth I was acquainted with a venerable matron of this parish, who well remembered him and had received his blessing. She described with much feeling, the impression made upon her mind by the solemnity of the scene, when, in her childhood, she stood before this good old man, who, leaning upon his staff, laid his hand on her head and in prayer craved for her the blessing of God.

His creed was after the faith of his fathers, and he was of the straitest sect. He was exceedingly tenacious of all the forms and observances of religion practiced by the first settlers of New England, and zealously opposed all innovations in doctrine and usages of worship.—When he became the head of a family, he failed not in the daily performance of family devotion; and such was his reverence for the Christian Sabbath, that it was his uniform prac-

tice, on that day, to assemble his household together in family prayer, morning, noon and evening.—Heaven gave him length of life; and those who knew him said of him, that he passed it in the conscientious performance of his duties to God and to man. He died June 23d, 1729, aged 75 years.

Joseph Wight married Deborah Colburn of Dedham, January 15, 1679, who died August 30, 1684. He married Mary Stearns of that town, April 22, 1685, who died December 25, 1733, aged 73 years. Their children were,

1. Joseph born December 10, 1681.
2. Deborah " August 25, 1684.
3. Nathaniel " September 13, 1688.
4. Ebenezer " January 22, 1696.
5. Jabez " July 12, 1701.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—JOSEPH, son of *Joseph* and *Deborah*, born December 10, 1681, married Sarah Metcalf, April 6, 1709, who died June 28, 1748, aged 72. He married Mary Pond, April 24, 1750; was selectman fourteen years, and deacon in the first church twenty-six. He died July 14, 1756, aged 74. They had children,

1. Joseph born January 7, 1710.
2. Henry " April 6, 1713.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—JOSEPH, son of *Joseph* and *Sarah*, born January 7, 1710, married Miriam Stanley of Dedham, January 13, 1734, who died January 3, 1797, aged 86. They had children,

1. Anna born March 12, 1735.
2. Miriam " December 5, 1736.
3. Henry " ————, 1738.
4. Joseph " December 17, 1740.
5. Samuel " January 2, 1742.
6. Thomas " February 23, 1744.
7. Sarah " October 25, 1747.
8. William " April 27, 1752.
9. Sarah " October 1, 1753.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—HENRY, son of *Joseph* and *Miriam*, born in 1738, married Mary Dean of Dedham, November 19, 1772. He died November 9, 1817, aged 79. She died July 29, 1818, aged 72. Their children were,

1. Joea born September 14, 1775.
2. Andrew " April 14, 1778.
3. Jason " September 18, 1782.
4. Joel " March 15, 1784.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—JASON, son of *Henry* and *Mary*, born September 18, 1782, married Sarah Wight of Nor-

wich, November 8, 1807, who died July 14, 1819, aged 35. He died April 14, 1840, aged 57. They had children,

1. Eleazer born January 30, 1809.
2. David " November 12, 1810.

EIGHTH GENERATION.

VIII.—ELEAZER, son of *Jason* and *Sarah*, born January 30, 1809, married Eliza Williams Fuller of Walpole, June 1, 1843. They reside in Dedham.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—JOEL, son of *Henry* and *Mary*, born March 15, 1784, married Lois Holmes of Dedham, November 14, 1805. He died May 2, 1811, aged 27. They had children,

1. Joel born August 9, 1806.
2. Ann " August 3, 1809.

EIGHTH GENERATION.

VIII.—JOEL, son of *Joel* and *Lois*, born August 9, 1806, married Rebecca Morse Gay of Dedham, May 9, 1830. They reside in Dedham, and have children,

1. George Francis born July 26, 1831.
2. Charles Stearns " March 28, 1834.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—JOSEPH, son of *Joseph* and *Miriam*, born December 17, 1740, married Judith Everett of Dedham, September 16, 1762. They removed from Dedham to Rutland in 1763, and thence to Norwich, Mass. in 1780. He died September 13, 1809, aged 68. She died December 4, 1818, aged 80. They had children,

1. Catharine born August 26, 1763.
2. Meltiah " November 7, 1765.
3. Joseph " April 2, 1767.
4. Judith " February 2, 1769.
5. Eleazer " July 16, 1771.
6. Miriam " June 18, 1773.
7. Alice " April 11, 1778.
8. Joel " August 23, 1781.
9. Sarah " July 20, 1784.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—JOSEPH, son of *Joseph* and *Judith*, born April 2, 1767, married Lydia Harris of Dedham, February 28, 1793. He died February 10, 1805, aged 37. She died May 11, 1825, aged 55. They resided in Norwich, and had children,

1. Harris born May 9, 1794.
2. Electa " June 14, 1796.
3. Susan " September 14, 1798.
4. Harvey " January 10, 1800.
5. Joseph " June 11, 1805.

VII.—ELEAZER, son of *Joseph* and *Judith*, born July 16, 1771, married Joea Wight of Dedham, March 30, 1796. He died April 1, 1805, aged 33. She resides in Norwich. Their children were,

1. Mary born July 10, 1796.
2. Meltiah " May 21, 1798.
3. Cordelia " May 27, 1800.
4. Harriet " June 19, 1802.
5. Eliza " November 25, 1804.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—SAMUEL, son of *Joseph* and *Miriam*, born January 2, 1742, married Abigail Webb of Needham, April 22, 1769. They removed from Dedham to Norwich, Mass. in 1795. He died May 25, 1810, aged 68. She died January 19, 1815, aged 68. They had children,

1. Betsey	born	————, 1769.
2. Jabez	"	January 14, 1771.
3. Drusilla	"	February 19, 1773.
4. Nancy	"	May 28, 1775.
5. Lucy	"	————, 1779.
6. Abigail	"	————, 1782.
7. Catherine	"	November 3, 1786.
8. Samuel	"	————, 1789.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—JABEZ, son of *Samuel* and *Abigail*, born January 14, 1771, married Mary Bancroft of Dana. He died in 1835, aged 64. She died December 8, 1836, aged 65. They had children,

1. Spencer	born	June, 1797.
2. Ahira	"	March, 1799.
3. Arthur	"	March, 1801.
4. Hosea	"	September, 1803.
5. Achsah	"	June 24, 1805.
6. Laura	"	June 23, 1807.
7. James Madison	"	June 1, 1809.
8. Jay Ambrose	"	September 12, 1811.

EIGHTH GENERATION.

VIII.—SPENCER, son of *Jabez* and *Mary*, born June, 1797, married Elizabeth Doyle, November 24, 1830. He died November 15, 1840, aged 43. She resides in Beaver, Penn. They had children,

1. Edwin	"	February 17, 1832.
2. Mary Jane	"	April 1, 1834.
3. Arthur	"	August 2, 1836.
4. Sarah Elizabeth	"	November 7, 1838.
5. Spencer Ambrose	"	September 8, 1840.

VIII.—JAMES MADISON, son of *Jabez* and *Mary*, born June 1, 1809, married Harriet Bassum of Danbury, Conn. December 25, 1843. He is a lawyer, and resides in Rockford, Ill.

VIII.—JAY AMBROSE, son of *Jabez* and *Mary*, born September 12, 1811, graduated at Williams College in 1836. He married Caroline E. Adams of Pikatonek, Ill. May 31, 1840; is a lawyer, and resides in Chicago, Ill.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—THOMAS, son of *Joseph* and *Miriam*, born February 23, 1744, married Mary Whiting of Dedham, May 2, 1771. They removed from Dedham to Norwich, Mass. in 1792. He died March 30, 1817, aged 73. She died December 9, 1836, aged 84. Their children were,

1. William born April 6, 1772.
2. Mary " November 27, 1773.
3. Burra " September 18, 1776.
4. Reuben " November 26, 1778.
5. Willard " February 3, 1781.
6. Susan " May 7, 1783.
7. Luther " November 27, 1785.
8. John " August 23, 1787.
9. Sarah " June 2, 1790.
10. Betsey " June 29, 1793.
11. Lima " April 10, 1796.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—WILLARD, son of *Thomas* and *Mary*, born February 3, 1781, married Polly Avery of Montgomery, January 22, 1806. They reside in Norwich, and have children,

1. Horace A. born January 16, 1808.
2. Emeline " February 17, 1810.
3. Susan " January 17, 1813.
4. Marilla " September 26, 1815.
5. Whiting W. " September 15, 1817.

6. Cordelia born June 17, 1824.
7. Edward F. " November 26, 1826.
8. Mary Jane " November 22, 1828.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—DEBORAH, daughter of *Joseph* and *Deborah*, born August 25, 1684, married Nathaniel Chickering of Dedham, July 26, 1716. He died January 16, 1746. She died January 16, 1749, aged 65. They had children,

1. Joseph born May 5, 1717.
2. Daniel " December 30, 1718.
3. Deborah " April 9, 1722.
4. Lydia " September 12, 1723.

JOSEPH CHICKERING, son of *Nathaniel* and *Deborah*, married Rebeckah Newell, February 7, 1743, and had son,

JABEZ, born in Dedham, November 4, 1753; graduated at Harvard University in 1774; was ordained over the South Congregational Society in Dedham, July 3, 1776, and died March 12, 1812, aged 58 years. He married Hannah Balch of that town, April 22, 1777, and had sons, Joseph and Jabez,

JOSEPH, born April 30, 1780; graduated at Harvard University in 1799; settled over the Congregational Society in Woburn, Mass. March 28, 1804; resigned April 11, 1821; was installed over the Society in Phillipston, Mass. July 10, 1822, and dismissed at his own request, July 15, 1835. He married Elizabeth White of Concord, and resides in Phillipston. ——— His son, JOHN W., was born in 1808; graduated at Middlebury College in 1826; was ordained in Bolton, Mass. April 14, 1830; resigned March 16, 1835, and was installed in Portland, Me., April 2, 1835.

JABEZ, born August 28, 1782; graduated at Harvard University in 1804; was a lawyer in Dedham; removed to Monroe, Mich. in 1823, and died October 20, 1826, aged 44 years. He married Deborah D. F. Alleyn of Dedham.

IV.—NATHANIEL, son of *Joseph* and *Mary*, born September 13, 1688, removed from Dedham to Wrentham, where he married Ruth Hawes, June 29, 1720. She died October 6, 1721. He married Hannah Pond of that town, January 9, 1722, who died October 3, 1754. He died April 3, 1755, aged 66. Their children were,

1. Benoni born September 18, 1721.
2. Mary " September 11, 1726.
3. Ruth " August 16, 1728.
4. James " January 9, 1730.
5. Sarah " June 2, 1733.
6. Deborah " February 3, 1735.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—BENONI, son of *Nathaniel* and *Ruth*, born September 18, 1721, married Sarah Thayer of Wrentham, April 19, 1750. He died in 1775, aged 54. They had children,

1. Nathaniel born August 20, 1753.
2. Elizabeth " January 24, 1755.
3. Jabez " December 1, 1756.
4. Jonathan " September 7, 1758.
5. David " March 25, 1761.
6. Elias " April 25, 1764.
7. Ruth " October 17, 1765.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—NATHANIEL, son of *Benoni* and *Sarah*, born August 20, 1753, married Mehitable Fuller, January, 1755. They removed from Wrentham, Mass. to Barnard, Vt. in 1788. She died February, 1822. He died October 17, 1832, aged 79. Their children were,

1. Benoni born January 20, 1776.
2. Jerusha " October 17, 1779.
3. Betsey " April —, 1786.
4. Rhoda " August —, 1788.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—BENONI, son of *Nathaniel* and *Mehitable*, born January 20, 1776, married Bridget Brockway, September 25, 1803. They reside in Barnard, Vt. and have children,

1. Lucy born October 17, 1806.
2. Willard " October 17, 1808.
3. Dan C. " August 12, 1812.
4. Collins " May 3, 1815.
5. Charlotte " June 20, 1816.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—EBENEZER. (See article, page 80.)

IV.—JABEZ, son of *Joseph* and *Mary*, was born in Dedham, July 12th, 1701, and graduated at Harvard University in 1721. The Church Records contain this notice of his settlement in the ministry:—" October 16, 1726. Upon the desire of the church of Christ in East Norwich, in conjunction with Mr. Wight, the church voted to give Mr. Wight letters of recommendation (and desired the pastor to write them) in order to his embodying with the church and becoming their Pastor."—

This letter from the church in Dedham, written by their Pastor, the Rev. Samuel Dexter, (now in the possession of one of Mr. Wight's descendants,) has this allusion to his intellectual and moral worth: "We cannot but heartily congratulate your mutual happiness, hoping that he whom we greatly love and honour, as well for y^{e} grace of God w^{ch} we hope we see in him, as for his desirable abilities for y^{e} Gospel ministry, will prove a rich and lasting blessing to you and yours."

He was ordained over the Congregational Society in East Norwich, (now Preston,) Connecticut, October 27th, 1726, and died September 11th, 1782, in the 82d year of his age, and 56th of his ministry.—Of his character, little can be known after the lapse of so many years; but his memory is held in honourable and affectionate remembrance by the few surviving persons who were acquainted with him. The following sketch of him was written by one of his parishioners a few days after his decease:—"He was a faithful servant in the Vineyard of his Lord, as long as his health and strength permitted. He was an Orthodox Divine, a good Preacher, and believed the doctrines he taught; a man much in prayer. The doctrines of free, rich and sovereign grace and the divine atonement and satisfaction, were his darling theme and delightful topic. He taught and believed that there is no name given among men, save Jesus of Nazareth, whereby we must be saved. He was much endued with the true Christian graces and virtues, nor did he lack charity."

Jabez Wight married Ruth Swan of Stonington, Conn. who died March 15, 1768, aged 63. They had children,

1. Jabez born ———, 1728.
2. Joseph " ———————.
3. Ebenezer " ———————.
4. Benjamin " ———————.
5. Nathaniel " ———————.
6. Mary " ———, 1737.
7. John " ———————.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—JABEZ, son of *Jabez* and *Ruth*, born in 1728, married Sarah Lord of Preston. He died August 9, 1787, aged 59. She died October 3, 1788, aged 60. They had children,

1. Sarah born July 28, 1759.
2. Ruth " May 18, 1762.
3. Hezekiah Lord " April 14, 1765.
4. Mary " ———————.
5. Jabez " ———————.
6. Nathaniel " ———————.
7. Benjamin " ———————.
8. Lydia " ———————.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—RUTH, daughter of *Jabez* and *Sarah*, born May 18, 1762, married Solomon Giddings of

Preston, March 3, 1785. She died December, 1837, aged 75. They had children,

1. George born ———.
2. Jabez Wight " ———.
3. Sarah " ———.
4. Lucy " ———.
5. John " ———.
6. Martha " ———.
7. Mary " ———.
8. Mary Ann " ———.

VI.—HEZEKIAH LORD, son of *Jabez* and *Sarah*, born April 14, 1765, removed from Preston, Conn. to Richmond, Va. in 1791. He married Nancy Leeds of Stonington, Conn. February 17, 1798. She died February 26, 1812, aged 32. He died July 12, 1837, aged 72. They had children,

1. Edwin Lord born March 12, 1799.
2. Calvin " December 26, 1800.
3. William Leeds " March 17, 1802.
4. John " November 15, 1803.
5. Sally Ann " May 13, 1806.
6. Louisa " August 16, 1807.
7. Ann Eliza " March 16, 1810.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—EDWIN LORD, son of *Hezekiah Lord* and *Nancy*, born March 12, 1799, married Margaret Copland of Richmond, Va. May, 1837.—They reside in Tuckahoe, Va.

VII.—WILLIAM LEEDS, son of *Hezekiah Lord* and *Nancy*, born March 17, 1802; graduated at Yale College in 1822. He married Grace Hughes of New Haven, Conn. December 7, 1834; is a physician, and resides in Goochland County, Va. They have children,

1. William Washington born March 7, 1837.
2. Henry Theodore " July 8, 1843.

VII.—JOHN, son of *Hezekiah Lord* and *Nancy*, born November 15, 1803; graduated at Yale College in 1823; married Augusta Maria Huggins of New Haven, Conn. who died in June 1830.—He married Margaret Copland Brown of Richmond, Va. in November, 1831; resides in that city, and has had children,

1. Julia Augusta born July, 1828.
2. Margaret Copland " October, 1832.
3. John Henry " January, 1834.
4. Mary Elizabeth " February, 1835.
5. Ann Louisa " December, 1836.
6. Ellen Augusta " June, 1838.
7. Alice Lester " February, 1840.
8. Charles Copland " September, 1841.
9. William Marshall " June, 1843.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—MARY, daughter of *Jabez* and *Ruth*, born in 1737, married Amos Geer of Groton, Conn. He died May 19, 1821, aged 85. She died July 18, 1822, aged 85. They had children,

1. Robert born March 28, 1761.
2. Mary " November 10, 1762.
3. Ebenezer " October 23, 1764.
4. Abigail " August 28, 1766.
5. Greenman " October 7, 1767.
6. Ruth " September 12, 1770.
7. Amos " October 7, 1772.
8. Margaret " January 26, 1775.
9. Sarah " April 26, 1777.
10. Elizabeth " June 12, 1781.

V.—JOHN, son of *Jabez* and *Ruth*, married Alice Fitch of Windham, Conn. and had son,

1. John Fitch born ————.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—JOHN FITCH, son of *John* and *Alice*, married Clarissa Allen of Preston, Conn. in 1786, and died in 1793. They had children,

1. John Fitch born November 2, 1790.
2. Jabez " August 12, 1792.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

VII.—JOHN FITCH, son of *John Fitch* and *Clarissa*, born November 2, 1790, married Jane E. P. Kimberly of New Haven, Conn. February 7, 1819. They reside in Erie, Penn. and have had children,

1. John Fitch born September 8, 1821.
2. Clarissa Allyn " September 17, 1823.
3. Thomas Potter " September 13, 1825.
4. John William " June 7, 1828.
5. Jabez Allyn " September 4, 1830.
6. Emily Jane " November 1, 1833.

VII.—JABEZ, son of *John Fitch* and *Clarissa*, born August 12, 1792, married Rebecca G. Worrell of Philadelphia, April 5, 1823. They reside in Girard, Penn. and have had children,

1. Mary Worrell born April 28, 1824.
2. Emily Louisa " June 12, 1826.
3. Ann Eliza " August 7, 1828.
4. John Fitch " September 22, 1830.
5. Edwin Lewis " March 23, 1832.
6. Ebenezer Allyn " July 10, 1834.
7. Mary Clarissa " October 3, 1836.
8. Rachel Elizabeth " February 24, 1839.
9. Rebecca Jane " March 24, 1841.

FOURTH GENERATION.

IV.—EBENEZER WIGHT.

EBENEZER WIGHT, son of *Joseph* and *Mary Wight*, was born in Dedham, January 22d, 1696. He passed his life in the cultivation of his paternal acres. The employment of a husbandman has but little to vary its annual round of duties; for, with him, the history of a year is an epitome of his life. If, however, it has but little variety as the current of life runs on, yet it is favourable to intellectual and moral improvement.—Agriculture promotes health of body and of mind; holds out the certain prospect of gaining a competence; is free from the wasting cares and exhausting anxieties inseparable from many other vocations, and secures the possession of all the rational enjoyments of life.

As he was of retired habits, his temperament well fitted him for the secluded labours which husbandry requires. Though he was fond of agriculture as the means of sustaining himself and family, and was happily occupied in the management of his herds and his fields, he was not indifferent to the passing events of his old age. In those times, when the mother country was commencing her encroach-

ments on the rights of the colonies and making insecure the liberties of the citizens, he entered with a hearty zeal into the plans proposed for the common good, and, in various ways, in the circle around him, contributed his time and his means to aid in accomplishing them. He saw only the opening scene of this eventful drama; but he lived to deplore the death of his two youngest sons, both of whom died in defence of liberty and their country —among the earliest victims in the War of Independence.

He was an honest and industrious man; a worthy and exemplary citizen; a patriot and a Christian. His children always spoke of him with reverence and affection; as a parent who had performed his duties to them, and to whom they were greatly indebted for much good counsel and instruction. Religious teaching entered largely into his family discipline. The principles and opinions of the Puritan Fathers, which had been taught him, he taught them, that they might hold fast to what he believed to be "the faith once delivered to the saints."—He died December 20th, 1776, aged 79 years.

He married Subiah Hall of Stoughton, September 3, 1740, who died August 18, 1802, aged 85 years.—She possessed great mildness of disposition, kindness of feeling and gentleness of manner. Her heart overflowed with love to all with whom she was in any way associated. She died when I was young, but her goodness engraved her image upon

my memory.—The children of Ebenezer and Subiah Wight were,

1. Ebenezer born July 8, 1741.
2. Subiah " March 26, 1743.
3. Mary " February 2, 1745.
4. Ebenezer " November 4, 1746.
5. Joseph " January 8, 1748.
6. Ebenezer " September 24, 1750.
7. Deborah " June 19, 1752.
8. Samuel " December 15, 1753.
9. Nathaniel " January 22, 1756.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—SUBIAH, daughter of *Ebenezer* and *Subiah*, born March 26, 1743, married Zaccheus Hawes of Sherburne, March 9, 1768. She resided in Dedham, and died January 16, 1835, aged 91. They had children,

1. Lucy born January 10, 1769.
2. Sally " May 3, 1776.
3. Ebenezer " May 14, 1778.
4. Chloe " June 5, 1780.
5. Joab " April 17, 1782.

V.—MARY, daughter of *Ebenezer* and *Subiah*, born February 2, 1745, married John Healy of Newton, May 13, 1762. They removed to Washington, N. H. in 1778. He died August 19, 1810, aged 76. She died August 18, 1827, aged 82. They had children,

1. Mary born April 28, 1763.
2. Katharine " November 10, 1764.
3. Rebecca " July 3, 1766.
4. Ebenezer " February 3, 1768.
5. Jesse " November 3, 1769.
6. Hannah " September 24, 1771.
7. John " July 2, 1773.
8. Joseph " August 21, 1776.
9. Desire " July 25, 1778.
10. Sally " March 7, 1781.
11. Samuel " June 10, 1783.
12. Nathaniel " July 10, 1785.
13. Eliza " March 4, 1789.

JOSEPH HEALY, son of *John* and *Mary*, born August 21, 1776, married Ruth Jaquith, December 24, 1801, who died June 19, 1807.—He married Sally Copeland, February 2, 1808.—He has been several times elected to the offices of Representative, Senator, and Councillor in New Hampshire, and was a member of the nineteenth and twentieth Congress of the United States from that State.—He resides in Washington, N. H. and has had children,

1. Harvey born December 26, 1802.
2. Clara " June 11, 1809.
3. John Plummer " December 28, 1810; graduated at Dartmouth College in 1835.
4. Loisa born December 24, 1812.
5. Langdon " July 28, 1815.
6. Sullivan Wight " June 30, 1817.

V.—JOSEPH, son of *Ebenezer* and *Subiah*, born January 8, 1748, married Miriam Lyscomb of

Stoughton, July 1, 1772, who died April 15, 1818. He resided in Dedham, and died March 23, 1826, aged 78. They had children,

1. Miriam born December 28, 1773.
2. Abigail " May 6, 1775.
3. Samuel " June 30, 1777.
4. Ebenezer " November 26, 1778.
5. Miriam " October 18, 1780.
6. Joseph " August 13, 1782.
7. Joseph " June 27, 1784.
8. Jabez " June 5, 1786.
9. Thomas " June 29, 1788.
10. Lucretia " October 7, 1792.
11. Phineas " February 28, 1795.
12. Sylvester " May 4, 1797.

V.—EBENEZER. (See article, page 85.)

V.—DEBORAH, daughter of *Ebenezer* and *Subiah*, born June 19, 1752, married Peter Niles of Washington, N. H. They removed to Claremont, where she died August 29, 1840, aged 88—without issue.

V.—SAMUEL, born December 15, 1753, and NATHANIEL, born January 22, 1756, sons of *Ebenezer* and *Subiah*, were soldiers in the army of the Revolution, and died in the service of their country in 1776.

FIFTH GENERATION.

V.—EBENEZER WIGHT.

EBENEZER WIGHT, son of *Ebenezer* and *Subiah Wight*, was born in Dedham, September 24th, 1750. His boyhood and early youth were passed under the paternal roof, and in the cultivation of the family estate. His father was a farmer, industrious, frugal and pious; and being strongly attached to the creed of the Puritan Fathers, he governed his household in accordance with those views of religious duty. Surrounded daily by such influences, aided by the precepts and example of his mother, his mind was early directed to the contemplation of sacred truths and awakened to a sense of future accountability. As he possessed the inestimable blessing of having parents in whose characters were united intelligence and piety, his home was favourable to religious growth, and was a nursery of the virtues.

Parental religious instruction was more common in former times than it now is. A system of education which excludes this branch is lamentably defective, and can render no equivalent in lieu of it.—It is the heart rather than the understanding;

the affections rather than the intellect, which first call for the watchful guidance of parental care. To educate only the intellect in childhood, and to leave uncultivated the religious sentiment, is but to half educate the man, and is little better than to preserve the shell and throw away the kernel.—That branch of education was more regarded in days passed than in the present. Parents converted the domestic circle into a school, imbued the minds of their children with lessons of truth from the word of God, and consecrated their instructions by the incense which ascended, morning and evening, from the family altar.

Mr. Wight continued in his father's family, and in the employment of agriculture, till quite the verge of manhood.—The public schools in Dedham at this time furnished but little aid in the acquisition of learning. They were open only a short period during the year, and the branches taught scarcely extended beyond the rudiments of an English education. He improved them, however, such as they were; but his thirst for knowledge could not be slaked in these little streams, and he longed to drink from the wells of learning.

To endeavour to obtain a college education seemed, in his case, to be making a hopeless effort. His father was the owner of a farm of moderate value, which gave to his family a comfortable support, but left nothing for the luxuries or accomplishments of life. He had no wealthy friend from whose coffers he could draw the sums necessary to meet such expenses. He had, however, energy of

character, which is worth more to a young man than wealth alone.—To some minds, obstacles to success in life seem to create the very power to overcome them; and when their prospects to others appear darkest, through the thick gloom they discern a ray of hope, the dawn of a brighter day.—He commenced the study of the classics under great disadvantage, devoting his nights to books and his days to manual labour. To add to his pecuniary resources, he taught school during the winter months, and subjected all his expenses to the rules of a rigid economy. He completed his preparatory studies under a clergyman at Uxbridge, and graduated at Harvard University in 1776.

At this period the Colonies were commencing that series of political events which will ever make this year the most memorable in history. The times invited educated young men into the military and civil service; and the door of advancement was thrown open to all.

Mr. Wight could be influenced by no new aspect of political affairs in selecting his future occupation. There was but one pursuit in which he wished to engage; but one prize he wished to win, and for this he had struggled long in the race. The object of his heart was to prepare for the gospel ministry; and he desired to assume its duties, that he might be useful to others. He studied divinity under the instruction of the Rev. Jason Haven, of Dedham; a clergyman eminent for piety and learning. Having passed through the studies usual at that time, Mr. Wight became a candidate for the ministry and

soon after received a unanimous invitation from the Congregational Church and Society in Hollis Street, Boston, to become their Pastor, as successor to the Rev. Dr. Byles, which he accepted, and was ordained February 25th, 1778.

The duties of a Christian preacher are the most arduous and responsible a man can assume. The effects of his ministry are not limited to the short space of this life, but continue without end. The eternal happiness of his hearers is affected, for good or evil, by his fidelity or neglect of duty.

Mr. Wight entered upon his pastoral charge, resolved to devote his time and talents to the flock over which Providence had placed him.—He visited his people to learn their wants, and, by social intercourse, to obtain a more easy access to their minds in his public ministrations.—He sought out the aged and the infirm, that he might in conversation supply to them, in some degree, the loss of attendance on public worship.—He directed his attention, particularly, to the young, as that part of his field in which he could labour with the greatest hope of success; planting good seed in this soil before noxious weeds had time to take root.—He improved every opportunity to administer the hopes of Christianity to the sick, and to pour the balm of consolation into hearts wounded by affliction.—He devoted his services to the poor as well as to the rich, that he might carry the blessings of religion to the humblest member of his society.—His visits among his people were rendered more acceptable and use-

ful by the kindness of his manner.—He won their hearts by giving them his own.

Mr. Wight was a popular preacher. He possessed more than ordinary qualifications as a public speaker. He had a melodious voice ; a distinct enunciation ; graceful gesture ; an impressive manner and great gifts in prayer. The composition of his sermons was good, according to the standard of the times. In his discourses his favourite themes were, the great truths of the gospel and the duties they enforce, whilst he never bewildered the minds of his hearers with metaphysical disquisitions, nor wasted their time in the barren field of controversial theology.—His labours among his people were greatly blessed. Numbers were added to his Church and Society, and "the word of God grew and multiplied."

As his parochial duties required him to pass a part of the day among the members of his Society, he was accustomed to extend his studies into a late hour of the night. After continuing this practice a few years, he began to feel the effects of it in a weakness of his eyes. He relinquished the habit, and had a person to read to him. This gave some relief to his complaint, and he indulged the hope that his sight would be restored.

This affliction rendered his situation one of painful anxiety to himself and his people. The state of his eyes prevented his taking much exercise, and the want of it impaired his health and induced a general debility. To continue his public services, so as to be useful to his hearers, he was well aware

that he must replenish his mind by study, or the intellectual stock would in time be exhausted. His love for his people prompted him to regard their wants rather than his own, and he desired, at all times, to consult their good without reference to himself.

In compliance with their wishes, he retired to the country to try the effects of a change of air, with the expectation that a few months passed among rural scenes would renovate his health. But the breezes of his native hills bore on their wings no strength to his feeble limbs or weakened vision. He returned to Boston, little benefited, to resume his ministerial labours.

In the condition in which Mr. Wight was at this time, his weekly preparation for the pulpit required much intellectual labour. From loss of sight he was unable to read or write, and much reflection on the intended theme of his discourse was necessary to arrange the thoughts he wished to express.—If a preacher be solicitous to perform his duty to his hearers, preparation, made under these circumstances, will demand of him more time and a greater mental effort, than the composition of a sermon.—The preacher, when giving utterance to thoughts premeditated, but not written out, must have quickness of perception; retentive memory; command of language and the entire controul of his mind.—The writer of sermons records his thoughts as they flow along; selects and erases at his leisure; secures for future time the inspiration of the pres-

ent, and gathers up and preserves the jewels of his mind to exhibit them on every fit occasion.

The Meeting House of the Hollis Street Society was destroyed by fire April 20th, 1787. Immediately after this event the Old South Church invited Mr. Wight and people to unite with them in public worship, until they should erect another house; and the invitation having been accepted, the stated service was divided between him and their pastor, the Rev. Dr. Eckley.

After passing three years in feeble health, with impaired sight; receiving no permanent improvement to either, from country residence or medical skill; and feeling no longer able to perform his ministerial labours, he asked of the Society a dissolution of his pastoral connexion.

The following letter from the Hollis Street Society, in reply to this request, is a beautiful proof of his having faithfully performed his duties to them, and of their affectionate attachment to him.

"Boston, May 18, 1788.

"*Reverend and Beloved Sir*,

"It has been with real concern that we have seen the feeble state of your health and sight for some time past. But we entertained a pleasing hope that your relaxation from constant labours, and retirement in the country, would be a means (under Divine Providence) of restoring both your health and sight; but we are exceeding sorry to find, by your letter of the 6th inst. which has been laid before us, that your feeble state of health and

sight still continue, and to such a degree, that you judge it necessary to retire from the ministry and dissolve the tender and sacred relation between us, and which we, with so much comfort and happiness, have enjoyed for more than ten years past; in which time, we have had such full demonstration of your tenderness and faithfulness to us, the people of your charge, that we cannot entertain a doubt of its being from (what you apprehend) real necessity, and also from the best and purest of motives, that you have requested to be dismissed from your pastoral relation to us. But as the labours to which you are now called are not constant, it is our earnest wish and desire that you should continue with us for the present, and preach as often as you can without injuring your health. And we further request your kind assistance and advice in obtaining a Pastor, if a separation between us must take place. But we hope, Sir, to be united in everlasting bonds of the purest love and friendship.

"We are, Dear Sir, with most devout and fervent wishes for your comfort and happiness in this and a better world, your affectionate brethren and friends.

"In the name and by order of the Society at the meeting held by adjournment this day.

CALEB DAVIS.
THOS. BAYLEY.
WILLIAM BROWN."

From the time of his settlement Mr. Wight repeatedly received from many individuals in his

Society unquestionable pledges of their personal friendship for him, and this public expression of their united regard bound them to him still stronger.

He continued to preach, but felt that the burden was too heavy longer to bear. From the commencement of his ministry, his intercourse with his Society had been one of uninterrupted confidence and friendship. To break these ties strengthened by time was, to both, a source of painful regret. They had passed together ten years in the intimate relation of pastor and people, and they were years of mutual attachment.

He had now relinquished all expectation of any improvement in his sight, and he thought his duty to the people of his charge and to himself required that he should again ask his dismission. He renewed the request, and his pastoral connexion with the Church and Society in Hollis Street was dissolved September 7th, 1788.

Mr. Wight returned to his native town, and passed there the remainder of life. He engaged in agriculture as the employment most likely to improve his general health. He directed the management of his farm, and gave a portion of time to manual labour. From this salutary occupation he derived benefit, and partially recovered his sight, so as to be able to read a few minutes without causing pain. This mode of exercise he found necessary for his health, and he practiced it also for its refreshing influence upon his mind. To him, his field and garden were places of worship; and he retired

there to contemplate on the wisdom of Providence and the beneficence of the Author of nature.

He opened a private Academy, and continued it a few years. In the government of his pupils he was decided, but mild. He preferred to retain his authority by kindness, rather than by fear ; by persuasion, than by compulsion ; by appealing to the understanding, than by inflicting pain. He had a parental tenderness for them, which they returned by filial regard.

Mr. Wight's income was at no time large, but the practice of economy had enabled him to preserve a competence ; the fruits of his industry and frugality. This proper regard to his means in his expenditures, with the property he received by his second marriage, placed him in easy circumstances in the evening of life. In the bosom of his family, with leisure and inclination to enjoy the society of his friends, he passed his time happily, with few vicissitudes to diversify the ordinary current of events.

As he had not promised himself great length of life, and had endeavoured daily to prepare for its end, the summons for his departure could not come unexpected, nor find him unprepared.—His last sickness was long and painful. In this hour of trial, as in all the trials of life, he was supported by his faith in the hopes and promises of the gospel. Not a word of complaint or disquiet escaped him ; for he desired, with devout submission, to take of the cup which was given him to drink. He resigned himself to the disposal of his heavenly Fa-

ther, hoping to be accepted of him through the merits and mediation of his Son.—He died September 25th, 1821, aged 71 years.

A few days after his death, I wrote and published in the Boston Centinel the following:

"Obituary of Ebenezer Wight, Esq. of Dedham, recently deceased. When the good man goes down to the tomb, it is well for the living to be reminded of his worth, that they may be excited to copy his example. Rarely have we seen, in the same individual, all the virtues shine with a brighter lustre, during a long life, than in the instance of Mr. Wight. Religion early took possession of his mind, and he resolved to dedicate his life to the advancement of her cause. Having received his education at our University, and prepared himself for the ministry, he was invited by the Society worshiping in Hollis Street, Boston, to become their pastor, as successor to Dr. Byles. For ten years he continued to dispense the word of life to this people with fidelity and ability, returned by success and attachment, when a partial loss of sight compelled him, after twice requesting dismission, to sever the tender cord which united him to his affectionate flock, and retire to private life. Here, as before, 'all his thoughts had rest in Heaven.' The hopes and promises of our holy religion were the favourite theme of his conversation, and its precepts, in every situation, the strict rule of his conduct. As an instructor, he was the father of his pupils; as a magistrate, the protector of the op-

pressed; as a citizen, the pattern of every good work. In all the relations of domestic life, he was a never-failing source of happiness and instruction to his family. In his last lingering and painful sickness he displayed, in an uncommon degree, the triumph of religion over the decay of nature. Here might be seen the calmness, the fortitude, the resignation of the Christian. Here a brother disciple might be strengthened in his faith. Here an infidel might learn the value of Christianity in the hour of suffering. The nearer he approached the termination of life, the more he enjoyed the supporting presence of his Divine Master, till with joy he fell asleep in Jesus."

The prominent feature of Mr. Wight's mind was, good sense. Not having had the advantages of an early education, and partially losing his sight when middle aged, he was deprived of the opportunity to make great attainments in learning. He had but little acquaintance with Greek beyond the Greek Testament and the Septuagint; was a good Latin scholar, and was well read in English literature. Of French he had a minute and critical knowledge, and wrote and spoke it with accuracy and fluency. He acquired language with great facility, as his memory was very retentive.

He engaged in the concerns and interests of the community, and laboured for its good.—He took pleasure in reciprocating the courtesies of social intercourse, esteeming it a means of promoting the common happiness.—He looked favourably upon

the motives of others, and spoke of their good qualities rather than their defects.—He regarded all mankind as one family, and was a friend to all.

Though at no time rich, he was charitable to the poor. When I was young, his income was greater than at any other period of his life, and then it was his rule to lay aside, regularly, a portion of it to be devoted to purposes of charity. To his eldest brother he gave, for more than forty years, without rent, the possession of a comfortable house and the entire management of a small, but productive farm. His bounty contributed much to the support of his eldest sister during many years.

He was a strict observer of the Christian Sabbath. All under his roof were taught, by precept and example, to keep the day "holy unto the Lord." He daily gathered his household together for the ordinance of family prayer.

He loved to converse on the subject of religion, but avoided theological disputations, believing them to be, as usually conducted, more productive of evil than good. On articles of faith he allowed to no man the right to sit in judgment upon his brother man; but considered all answerable only to God. He respected the religious opinions of others, and conceded to them, what he claimed for himself—the liberty to worship God according to the convictions of his own mind. Considering difference of creed no proper cause for estrangement of our sympathies, he was catholic to all, and gave his friendship to persons whose views of Christianity, he knew, were widely different from his own. In

forming an estimate of individuals, he regarded more their obedience to the precepts of the gospel than the particular phraseology in which they embodied their faith.

He steadfastly adhered to the creed in which he was educated, and in which his confidence was strengthened by subsequent studies. But he never urged these peculiar views upon others ; nor was he unwilling to avow or defend them, if necessary. Of the true meaning of "regeneration," or the "new birth," as expressed in the New Testament, different opinions will be entertained by persons of different religious sentiments. To him, Christianity taught the doctrine of regeneration as explained in the writings of Calvin. He believed that it had pleased God to make him a subject of his regenerating grace, and by his Holy Spirit to seal him unto the day of Redemption. Of the divine origin of these impressions he had an inward assurance which no time nor circumstances could impair, and from which he derived a comfort and support "such as the world can neither give nor take away."

Mr. Wight was twice married. His first wife was Sarah Brown, daughter of Josiah and Hannah Brown, of Waltham. She was born September 28th, 1758, and died, without issue, March 4th, 1781, aged 22, two years after her marriage.

His second wife was Catharine Fuller.

CATHARINE WIGHT, wife of *Ebenezer Wight*, was born in Dedham, July 12th, 1764. She was the daughter of Hezekiah and Anna Fuller. Her family was of long residence in Dedham, the ancestors of her father and mother being among the first settlers of the town.

Her grandfather, Hezekiah Fuller, was a farmer, and, with one exception, the largest landholder in Dedham, from the settlement of the town to the present time.—Her father occupied the farm on which his father lived and died. He was an estimable and useful citizen—a devout believer and strict observer of all the ordinances of religion.—He died February 3d, 1776, aged 55 years, leaving three orphan children—daughters.

The mother of Mrs. Wight died six years after her marriage. She was much beloved for her active benevolence, and left behind her the savour of a good name. In conversation with me on the effect of her mother's death, upon the feelings of her father, Mrs. Wight remarked, that though he survived her ten years, and continued warmly attached to the parents of his wife, yet, such was the strength of his love for her, and so deeply did he lament her loss, that he could never be induced again to enter the house from which he had taken her.—Surely a woman who could inspire such an attachment was possessed of many virtues.

Mrs. Wight, thus early left an orphan, found kind friends in the sisters of her father; but alas! who can supply the place of a mother? Friends we may have who will do for us all that friends can do; but no one can entirely supply the place of an affectionate, intelligent, pious mother. No other person can feel that love for the child, which, like an inextinguishable flame, burns in the bosom of the mother, and prompts her, with unremitting diligence and untiring patience, to watch over her offspring for good.—She passed her time with one of her aunts till the marriage of her elder sister, when she returned to the family roof and continued there till her own marriage.

This interval of time she improved in attendance on the common school; but received no instruction beyond what could be here obtained.—Female education, at that day, was considered of much less importance than it now is, and was but little attended to. As the sphere of woman's power was thought to be limited, in comparison to that of the other sex, the education of the female mind was regarded of but secondary consideration. The community seem to have little heeded the incalculable influence of the mother in moulding the mind of her child; and not to have entertained the opinion, now generally assented to,—if we would elevate our race, we must begin by educating mothers.

She was married, December 13th, 1785, to Rev. Ebenezer Wight, of Boston. After a few years, Mr. Wight's ill health and loss of sight made it necessary that he should relinquish his ministerial

labours. He requested a dismission from his Society, and returned to Dedham, where they continued to reside.

Mr. Wight's health having improved, he opened a private school and received a number of pupils into his family. This devolved new cares and duties upon Mrs. Wight. She considered that these children, removed from the inspection of their parents, were committed to her protection, and had a claim upon her friendly regard and guidance. She endeavoured to exercise towards them that sympathy and kindness which bind together the members of a family in the bonds of love. Nor were her efforts ineffectual. The pupils saw the interest she took in their welfare, and were grateful to her for these expressions of maternal tenderness. They were willing to be influenced by her wishes, and to be controuled by her judgment, because they daily experienced proofs of her desire to do them good, and to supply, in some degree, the place of their absent mothers. And after these children had gone out into the world, and were actors on the stage of life, she often had the satisfaction of receiving from them the acknowledgements of their gratitude for her former kindnesses.

After a few years the school closed, and the subsequent part of Mrs. Wight's life was more immediately devoted to the cares of her own family.—She enjoyed great domestic happiness till the death of Mr. Wight. To this afflictive dispensation she submitted in humble resignation to the will of Heaven, and, in the midst of sorrow, desired to be

thankful that they had been permitted to accompany each other so long on the journey of life.

During the early part of life her health was feeble, and in middle age she was afflicted with a pulmonary affection from which neither she nor her friends expected her recovery. But, by the blessing of Heaven, the disease was rebuked, and her health continuing to improve as she advanced in life, she was exempt, in an unusual degree, from the infirmities incidental to old age.—She mingled much in the society of her friends, and was never indifferent to the attractions of social life.—She associated herself with charitable societies, and actively engaged in promoting their objects.

Her time passed happily to herself and usefully to others. The stream of her life long flowed smoothly and quietly, and now, in its progress onward, approached the end of its course, the ocean of eternity.—The Sunday before her decease she remarked she was not well, but should attend public worship, as the sacrament was to be administered. This was always to her an occasion of peculiar interest, and a more than ordinarily solemn exercise of devotion. She attended church and closed her worship of God in public, in commemorating the death of his Son—a fitting close of a long and exemplary life.—She died August 29th, 1840, aged 76 years.

Mrs. Wight was a friend to the poor, and gave liberally of her substance to those who were in need. She had not the means to make large donations in charity, but she gave according to her abil-

ity, sending none away empty.—Nor was her sympathy confined to her own species, but extended to every creature dependent upon her care.—Her character was aptly described by a poor person in the village, who, on the morning of her decease, lamenting her departure, said of her, "She was a friend to man and to beast."

She regarded the Sabbath as a day of holy rest, to be especially devoted to religious reading, prayer and meditation.—She took great delight in attendance on public worship, and often spoke of it as one of her many blessings, that she was enabled to go up to the house of God and enjoy the stated ministry of his word.—She gave a part of every day to private devotion.

Few ladies in advanced age are more acceptable in the social circle than was Mrs. Wight. Her good understanding, uniform cheerfulness and long acquaintance with the best society, gave interest and instruction to her conversation.—In the performance of her domestic duties she was an example of industry, neatness and frugality.

She was a most affectionate and devoted mother; solicitous for the prosperity of her children and watchful for their good. Above all, she desired to promote their spiritual welfare, counselling them not to rest their happiness on the fleeting shadows and unsatisfying joys of this transitory life; but, by obedience to the revealed will of God, to secure to themselves the only sure foundation for happiness, here and hereafter,—a confidence in the hopes and promises of the Gospel.

The children of Ebenezer and Catharine Wight are,

1. Danforth Phipps born February 8, 1792; graduated at Harvard University in 1815.
2. Catharine born August 28, 1798.
3. Ebenezer " October 8, 1803.
4. Edward " July 8, 1805.

SIXTH GENERATION.

VI.—CATHARINE, daughter of *Ebenezer* and *Catharine*, born August 28, 1798, married Benjamin Franklin Keyes of Westford, Mass. October 28, 1828, who was born March 7, 1801.—They reside in Dedham, and have had children,

1. Ebenezer Wight born November 20, 1830.
2. Benjamin Franklin " June 27, 1832.

VI.—EDWARD, son of *Ebenezer* and *Catharine*, born July 8, 1805, married Caroline Frances Stimson of Dedham, September 26, 1832. She is daughter of Dr. Jeremy and Hopestill Stimson, and was born September 29, 1811.—They reside in the city of New York, and have children,

1. Catharine Lee born October 20, 1833.
2. Caroline Frances " October 2, 1835.
3. Emily Stimson " February 25, 1837.
4. Edward " August 27, 1838.
5. Danforth Phipps " June 3, 1840.
6. Ebenezer " June 26, 1842.
7. George Richards " November 21, 1843.

APPENDIX.

COPY OF THE WILL OF THOMAS WIGHT.

In the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy-two, the seventh day of the twelfth month, I, Thomas Wight, senior, of Medfield, in the County of Suffolk, in New England, being by the good hand of God in some comfortable measure of health at the present, and sound in my memory and understanding, yet being grown in age and accompanied with the infirmities incident thereunto, and thereby frequently put in mind of my mortality, do therefore, in the name and fear of God, (in preparation to my expected change,) make and ordain this my last will and testament for the disposing and settling the things of this life wherewith it hath pleased God to intrust me, in manner and form as followeth:—Wherein, I first give and commit my soul into the hands of Jesus Christ, my dear Redeemer, and my body to the earth whence it was taken, to be after my decease christianly buried at the discretion of my executors.

Imprimis,—Whereas Lydia, my present dear and well beloved wife, did before my marriage with her make an agreement with me in all respects concerning her supply from me in case of my departure out of this natural life before herself, which agreement, under my hand and seal, is yet remaining in the keeping of Mr. John Eliot, Pastor of the Church of Christ in Roxbury, her brother.

Item — I do hereby fully settle and confirm unto and upon my son, Henry Wight of Dedham, my eldest son, all those my houses and lands lying and being in Dedham, formerly contracted for, with all the rights and priviledges thereunto belonging; and further I give unto the said Henry, my son, my two bigest books.

Item — I give and bequeath unto my son, Thomas Wight, the one half of that parcell of wood land which I formerly bought of Major Lusher, lying in Dedham bounds, and four acres of my swamp lying by William Cheney's, on the side next the said William Cheney and of the swamp at the end of Month Street lotts, three acres adjoining to his own swamp, and the one half of all my wearing clothes, both linen and wollen, boots, shoes and hats.

Item — I will and bequeath unto my son, Samuel Wight, and to his heirs forever, all that parcell of meadow which I formerly bought of John Warfield of Medfield, and all that parcell of land granted me by the town of Medfield, lying and adjoining to the parcell last above mentioned, and also one other parcell of coarse meadow lying in the swamp called Maple swamp, as also one half of all my wearing clothes, both linen and wollen, boots, shoes and hats.

Item — I will and bequeath unto my daughter, Mary Ellis, the wife of Thomas Ellis, and her heirs forever, that my bed, bedstead, and all the furniture thereunto belonging, fitted in all respects for use, as it now standeth in the parlor chamber in my dwelling house, as also one half of all such brass, pewter and iron pots as I shall leave at the time of my decease.

Item — I will and bequeath unto my son, Ephraim Wight, and his heirs forever, all that my dwelling house, barn and out houses belonging to the same, with all that my house lot whereupon they stand and are situated, and all other the appurtenances and accommodations to that my house and lot, as well already laid out as to be laid out whatsoever, both meadow, upland and swamp not formerly given and bequeathed, with all town rights and priviledges any way belonging or any way appertaining to the same or any part thereof; as also the one half of all that tract of wood land which I formerly bought of Major Lusher of Dedham, lying in Dedham bounds; as also twelve acres of land which I formerly bought of John Ellis;

as also four acres of meadow land lying on the mill brook; as also all that my parcell of land lying in Dedham bounds, comonly known by the name of the round plain, the ten acres formerly given to my son, Thomas Wight, excepted.

Item — I will and bequeath unto my grandchild, Juda Ellis, the daughter of my daughter, Mary Ellis, five pounds, to be paid to my executors in good and current country pay, within six months after my decease; and as for the residue of my estate, bills, bonds, debts, cattle, household stuff and moveables of what kind or sort soever not formerly given and bequeathed, (my just debts being payed and my funeral expenses discharged,) are hereby willed and bequeathed unto my son, Ephraim Wight.

Item — I do hereby nominate, appoint, ordain and constitute my well beloved son, Henry Wight of Dedham, and my son Ephraim Wight of Medfield, to be my executors to this my last will and testament, to whom I give and commit full power and trust for the full execution and performance of this my last will and testament, in all respects as is above mentioned; and in witness that this is my last will and testament contained in this sheet of paper, I do hereby renounce all other wills and bequeathments by me at any time formerly made, and have hereunto put my hand and seal, the date and year above written.

Signed, sealed and published, in the presence of
GEORGE BARBER.
his mark.
HENRY H LALAND.

his mark.
THOMAS T WIGHT and a seale.

George Barber and Henry Laland, the two witnesses to this instrument, personally appeared before John Leverett, Esq. Gov^{r} and Edw^{d} Tyng, Assist., April 2$^{d.}$ 1674, and deposed that they were present on the day of the date of this instrument, and then and there did heare and see Thomas Wight, the subscriber, seal and publish the same as his last will and testament; and that when he so did, he was of a sound disposing mind, to their best understanding.—*Suffolk County Probate Records, Vol. 7, page* 444.

INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS WIGHT.

A true inventory of the estate, both of Lands, Housings and Cattle and moveable goods of Thomas Wight, sen^{r} late of Medfield, in the County of Suffolk, in New England, who deceased March the seventeenth, 1673, with all other dues to him belonging, as it was apprized the 24th. 1 mo. 1673-4, by those underwritten.

In the Parlor.

Imprimis—To his books,	£ 1	10	00
To his wearing apparel,	11		
feather bed, bedstead and covering,	7		
money,	4	2	3
a cup board, table and chairs,	1	6	

In the Parlor Chamber.

a bedstead and furniture,	4	6	
a chest of linen,	4	13	
several pieces of linen and woolen cloth,	6	15	
31 lb. of yerne,	2	15	

In the Little Bedroom.

a chest, bedstead and bedding,	3	10	

In the Hall.

tables, forms and a chair,	0	16	
andirons, firepan, tonges, hakes,	1		
bellows, combs, hourglass, shears	0	12	6

In the Buttery.

14 peices of pewter,	2	18	
iron pots and brass vessels,	3	16	
frying pan, gridiron, mortar, spitt and several vessells and lumber,	1	10	

In the Leanto Chamber.

Flax, old iron, 3 corn sacks and lumber,	3	11	

In the Hall Chamber.

a bedstead and bedding and spinning wheel,	1	13	

In the Garrett.

wheat and rye and Indian corn,	4	
fann and lumber,	0	8

In the Cellar.

a tub of pork, suet, lumber,	2	14

In the back Leanto.

several iron tools and instruments,	2	16
spinning wheel, saddle and horse furniture, stock cards and grindstone,	1	7
To a musket and pike,	0	10
cart, plough, chains and hooks,	2	
cart rope and plough irons,	0	8
two cows, two oxen, one yearling and one calf,	18	
hay in the barn, ladder and pitch forks,	1	14
5 sheep and two swine,	3	13
the dwelling house and barn and other outhouses, with twelve acres of land on which the building stands,	150	
pasture land and orchard adjoining to the house lot,	20	
16 acres and one rod of swamp land,	8	
4 " of meadow on the mill brook,	20	
11 " of meadow land by Charles River,	40	
11 " of upland on pine hill,	10	
14 " of land on round plain,	17	
7 " and one rod of land,	6	
16 " of land by Joseph Morse,	8	
8 " of land by London farm,	4	
10 " and half of wood land west Charles River,	5	
7 " of land and 25 poles,	4	
16 " and half of land on long plain,	10	
166 " of land on the new grant,	10	
3 " of swamp land,	3	
4 " of meadow land,	12	
110 " of land in Dedham bounds,	15	
Debts due to the estate,	22	1 04
	£ 463	15 01

Remembered since in land,	1	
3 acres of land more,	1	10
Debts to be paid out of the estate,	2	18

his mark.
TIMOTHY ⊤ DWIGHT.
HENRY ADAMS.
JOHN MEDCALFE.

Henry Wight and Ephraim Wight personally appeared April 2d. 1674, before John Leverett, Esq. Govr. and Edwd Tyng, Assist. and made oath that this paper contains a just and true inventory of the estate of their late father, Thomas Wight, of Medfield, to the best of their knowledge; and that when they know more they will discover the same.—*Vol.* 7, *p.* 447.

In the Probate Records, the date of the death of Thomas Wight, prefixed to the Inventory of his estate, is March 17th, 1673. (The year 1674, according to the manner of dating at that time, not commencing till eight days later, March 25th.) His estate was apprized seven days after his decease, "the 24th. 1 mo. 1673–4." His death is recorded in the Medfield Records under the year 1674, as it should be.

The Will of his widow, Lydia, was approved July 27, 1676. —*Vol.* 6, *p.* 160.

Note to page 9.

At the time of writing this, there is but one other homestead in Dedham, of so early a date in the settlement of the town, still remaining in the family of the original settler.

Note to p. 15.

In the Dedham Records, April 11, 1655, is the marriage of Isaac Bullard and Ann Wight, (widow of John Wight.)

Note to p. 16.

The Will of Samuel Wight, senr. of Medfield, was made May 19, 1710, and approved Jan'y 17, 1716, the year beginning in March.—*Vol.* 19, *p.* 248.

Note to p. 17.

The Inventory of the estate of Rev. Elnathan Wight, of Bellingham, was accepted February 24, 1762.—*Vol.* 60, *p.* 78.

Note to p. 18.

Rev. Mr. Graham resided in Southbury, Ct. not "Southborough, Mass." as the writer states in the discourse from which I have made the extract, correcting the error.

Note to p. 23.

The Will of Jonathan Wight, senr. of Medfield, was made May 1, 1770, and approved April 9, 1779.—*Vol.* 78, *p.* 228.

Note to p. 24.

The Will of Jonathan Wight, of Medfield, was made January 14, 1782, and approved the following April 2.—*Vol.* 81, *p.* 36.

Note to p. 27.

Rev. Dr. Henry Wight was 85 years old at the time of his decease, not 84 only, as in the American Quarterly Register. In copying the extract into the text I have corrected the error.

Note to p. 33.

The Will of Ephraim Wight, of Medfield, was made January 9, 1743, and approved the following February 28.—*Vol.* 37, *p.* 14.

Note to p. 45.

The Inventory of the estate of Daniel Wight, of Medfield, was accepted June 11, 1745.—*Vol.* 37, *p.* 267.

Note to p. 49.

Power to administer upon the estate of Henry Wight, of Dedham, was granted April 26, 1681, "unto Jane, his relict widow, and Joseph Wight, his eldest son." The son born before Joseph died during the life of the father. The Inventory of the estate was accepted the 28th of the same month.—*Vol.* 9, *p.* 21.

Note to p. 52.

The Will of Daniel Wight, sen$^{r.}$ of Dedham, was made April 28, 1719, and approved the following July 6.—*Vol.* 21. *p.* 216.

The Will of Anne, widow of Daniel Wight, was made April 24, 1725, and approved the following May 31.—*Vol.* 24, *p.* 35.

Note to p. 52.

The Will of Daniel Wight, of Needham, was made February 20, 1769, and approved March 19, 1773.—*Vol.* 72, *p.* 217.

Note to p. 54.

In the Centennial Address delivered at Windham, Me. July 4, 1839, by Thomas L. Smith, the ordination and death of Rev. John Wight are noticed; but the writer gives no sketch of his character. Probably materials are wanting after so long a lapse of time.

Note to p. 55.

The Will of Jonathan Wight, of Wrentham, was made March 11, 1773, and approved the following April 9. His widow, Jerusha, mentioned in the Will, was his second wife, whom he married December 5, 1754.—*Vol.* 72, *p.* 243.

Note to p. 60.

The Will of Joseph Wight, sen$^{r.}$ of Dedham, was made January 2, 1724, and approved November 29, 1731.—*Vol.* 29, *p.* 166.

Note to p. 70.

In the "Dedham Pulpit" is a "Statistical Table of Churches and Ministers in the Territory of Ancient Dedham." In this notice of the Rev. Jabez Chickering, there is an error in the year of his birth. I copy from the Dedham Records.

Note to p. 72.

The Inventory of the estate of Benoni Wight, of Wrentham, was accepted April 2, 1776.—*Vol.* 75, *p.* 42.

Note to p. 73.

In the 4th volume of the American Quarterly Register is "A complete List of the Congregational Ministers of Connecticut from the settlement of the colony to the present time." In this it is observed that Rev. Jabez Wight was settled in 1765, and died, or was dismissed, in 1775. These statements are erroneous.—On the stone erected over his remains in Preston, it is incorrectly recorded that he died September 15th, 1783, in the 52d year of his ministry. The dates in the text were derived from authentic sources.

Note to p. 80.

The Will of Ebenezer Wight, sen^{r} of Dedham, was made December 11, 1772, and approved January 31, 1777.—*Vol.* 75, *p.* 230.

Note to p. 82.

On the stone over the grave of Mrs. Subiah Hawes, in Dedham, there is an error in her age.

The towns now constituting the County of Norfolk were a part of Suffolk till March 26, 1793, when Norfolk County was established by act of the General Court.

Note to p. 85.

The Will of Ebenezer Wight, of Dedham, was made June 20, 1821, and approved the following October 2.—*Norfolk County Prob. Rec. Vol.* 37, *p.* 122.

Note to p. 99.

The Will of Catharine, widow of Ebenezer Wight, was made July 1, 1833, and approved December 1, 1840.—*Vol.* 73, *p.* 201.

Note to p. 98.

GENEALOGY of the Family of BROWN, of WALTHAM, Mass.

(Communicated by Charles Brown, Esq., Boston.)

Abraham and Lidia Brown

Lydia
Jonathan, born 15th 3 mo. 1635
Abraham
Hannah

Jonathan and Mary Shattuck married 11th 12 mo. 1661

Mary
Elisabeth
Jonathan
Patience
Abraham
Samuel
Liddia
Ebenezer
Benjamin
William, born 3d Sept. 1684

William and Hannah Pease, 1st wife, marr'd 10th July, 1704

Ebenezer
Hannah
Sarah
William
Isaac
Susannah
Samuel

Sarah Bond, 2d wife, m. 11th Dec. 1718

Grace
Josias
Josiah, born 2d Aug. 1724
Sarah
Thankful

Josiah and Hannah Flagg, m. 20th April, 1749

William, born 22 Jan. 1749–50
Anna, " 22 Nov. 1751
Josiah, " 21 Jan. 1754
Sarah, " 28 Sept. 1758

Sarah married Ebenezer Wight.

Note to p. 99.

GENEALOGY of the Family of FULLER, of DEDHAM, Mass.

Thomas Fuller and Hannah Flower, married Nov. 22, 1643
He died Sept. 28, 1690—She d. April 11, 1672

- John, born Nov. 1, 1644
- John, " Dec. 28, 1645
- Elizabeth, " April 1, 1648
- Hannah, " Nov. 9, 1650
- Thomas, " Feb. 23, 1652
- Mary, " March 25, 1655
- Samuel, " April 25, 1657
- Sarah, " Sept. 3, 1659
- Thomas, " June 23, 1662

John and Judith Gay married Jan. 8, 1672
He died Jan. 15, 1718—She d. Nov. 19, 1718

- Judith, born Nov. 21, 1673
- Hannah, " Sept. 5, 1675
- John, " Nov. 19, 1677
- Thomas, " Nov. 19, 1681
- Robert, " Aug. 11, 1685
- Hezekiah, " Aug. 5, 1687

Hezekiah and Elizabeth Fisher married Feb. 26, 1718
He died July 8, 1756—She d. Sept. 23, 1783

- Elizabeth, born June 7, 1720
- Hezekiah, " Dec. 9, 1721
- Mary, " Jan. 9, 1727
- Judith, " June 1, 1735

Hezekiah and Anna Draper married Dec. 28, 1760
He died Feb. 3, 1776—She d. Jan. 11, 1766

- Anna, born Oct. 11, 1761
- Catharine, " July 12, 1764
- Elizabeth, " Jan. 3, 1766

Catharine married Ebenezer Wight.

Thomas Fuller came to Dedham in 1643. He filled various town offices, and was Representative.—In Quincy's History of Harvard University, in the list of donations made to the college, it is stated, that of the amount received from Dedham, "Ensign Thomas Fuller gave £5."—This was no trivial sum in that day, and is a gratifying proof of his liberality in the cause of education.—His Will was made September 24, 1690, and approved the following November 13.—*Prob. Rec. Vol.* 8. *p.* 7.

The Will of John Fuller was made Dec. 18, 1718, and approved the following January 26.—*Vol.* 21, *p.* 129.

The Inventory of the estate of Hezekiah Fuller was accepted April 26, 1757.—*Vol.* 52, *p.* 204.

The Inventory of the estate of Hezekiah Fuller (2d) was accepted May 6, 1776.—*Vol.* 75, *p.* 91.

COLLEGE GRADUATES.

Fifteen of the name of WIGHT had graduated at the New England Colleges in 1843; all of them descendants of THOMAS WIGHT.

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